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THE TIMES 50P

No. 65,707 SATURDAY OCTOBER 12 1996

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The slug that will

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Every week, Iain R. Webb, fashion journalist of the year, and Grace Bradberry on modern style

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'Honest John' cast as man of the people in struggle against 'new Labour, old school tie'

Major turns Tory fire on novice Blair

By Philip Webster, political editor

JOHN MAJOR served notice *yesterday that he intends to* turn the general election into a direct contest between himself and Tony Blair, presenting himself as a straight-talking man of the people compared with a verbose, privileged and out-of-touch novice.

He brought the Conservative conference in Bournemouth to a rousing close with a pledge that he would go out in the towns and streets, meeting as many people face to face as possible because he understood their instincts better than his Labour opponent. The Tories, he said, were better-placed — with hard-edged policies on education, health and crime — to meet people's aspirations for greater opportunities for all.

He told activists, buoyed by a week far more successful than they dared to expect, that the central question at the election was which party could be trusted with the future, and the answer was the Tories.

In a foretaste of what Tory strategists admit will be an election battle built round the characters of the two leaders, Mr Major laid heavy stress on the inexperience of the Labour leader, calling him "young Mr Blair" and telling him that prime minister was too big a task for his "first real job".

He again recalled his humble origins, of leaving school at 16 to earn £5 a week. He was casting himself as the man with the common touch against the privileged Mr Blair. He contrasted the grammar school education of himself and Kenneth Clarke with Mr Blair's private schooling, as he quipped, "New Labour, old school-tie".

Laying it on, he added: "I did not come from two rooms in Brixton to 10 Downing Street not to go out and fight with every fibre of my being for the things I believe in and the country I love."

He mocked Mr Blair's use of extravagant language, the talk of dreams, crusades and passion, and warned that the grander the words the more they should be suspected.

"It is going to be Honest John the Brixton boy against Smarmy Tony," a Tory strategist said.

Trying to show that the Conservatives need a fifth term of office, Mr Major laced his speech with references to the policy announcements made by minsiters this week.

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His main new policy initiative was an announcement that courts are to be given the option for the first time to apply electronic tagging curfew orders to juvenile offenders aged between ten and 15.

As expected, he promised real-term increases in spending on health through the next five years of Tory government. He reiterated the aim of a 20p tax rate for all and welfare reforms designed to produce a "self-help society — not a help-yourself society".

He said the Tories must continue to play a full part in Europe but pleased his audience by promising to stand firm against further integration. He spoke of how the week had helped to restore party unity; it was the week "the Tory family came together to renew the Tory contract with the British nation".

He took head-on the sleaze accusations, saying there had been an attempt to sully the party's reputation. The party might not be perfect; nor was everyone in it. But as a whole it was straight, honourable and true, he said. Unlike Labour the Tories were not ashamed of their past, had not abandoned their principles and had not had to reinvent themselves.

But his main theme was that the Conservatives were the party that knew how to improve opportunity for everyone. Using the low-key informal style that will be on show through the election campaign, Mr Major provoked laughter when he told of his birth.

"My father was 66; my mother was surprised," he said. He told how his family were like millions of others, not well off but comfortable until financially "the roof fell in". He left school at 16 because an extra £5 a week mattered.

The message was that Mr Major understands better than Mr Blair the hopes of the people. "I learnt something from that experience. In the game of life we Tories should even up the rules. Give people opportunity and choice, to open up an avenue of hope in their lives. I don't mean some people. I mean everyone."

Mr Major said he would speak for "the millions of quiet, decent home-loving families up and down our country. Alone you cannot hear their soft voice. But collectively they speak for Britain. Our message is for them."

ANDRÉ CAMARA

Richard Surtees, at 14 months a Tory conference old-timer, after his intervention right on cue yesterday

Baby heckler in double act with the leader

By Kathryn Knight

A 14-MONTH-OLD baby played straight man to the Prime Minister during his keynote speech to the Tory party conference yesterday, in an unusual political double act. Richard Surtees, son of Hinckley-based East Midlands Tory agent David Surtees and his wife Miriam, made his presence known to a packed hall as Mr Major addressed the party faithful.

As the Prime Minister launched into a tribute to the individuality of the nation's children, Master Surtees wailed his agreement. Mr Major was unfazed by the spontaneous display of support. As delegates laughed, he ad libbed: "In the old days, they said we had rigged this conference — but never like that."

To applause, he added: "But don't worry, what I'm talking about is that child's future. If he heckles, well, I'm used to that as well."

Richard's parents said their son had attended the conference all week, and had particularly enjoyed Chancellor Kenneth Clarke's speech.

Adams is blamed for death of Army victim

By Our Political Editor

THE Prime Minister yesterday openly accused Gerry Adams of backing terrorism, suggesting that he was implicated in the death of Warrant Officer James Bradwell, who died yesterday from his wounds following the IRA's bomb attack at Thiepval barracks in Lisburn.

John Major told the Sinn Fein president to spare any crocodile tears over the soldier's death. Mr Major was furious over Mr Adams's reaction to the bombing on Monday when he said it should be seen as a warning to the Government.

At the Conservative Party conference Mr Major said: "For many months Sinn Fein have mouthed the words of peace. Warrant Officer James Bradwell was 43 with a wife and with children, Mr Adams. He joined the Army prepared to lose his life defending the British nation. Soldiers do. But he was murdered in cold blood in the United Kingdom.

"I sent him there Mr Adams, so spare me any crocodile tears. Don't tell me this has nothing to do with you. I don't believe you Mr Adams."

To loud applause Mr Major added: "I hope his family can find tranquillity and peace. And I would just like to say to James Bradwell — well done for all you've done for our peace and security. It was in the best and most honourable tradition of the British Army."

Last night Warrant Officer Bradwell's widow, Pam, was at their married quarters inside Thiepval barracks with her children, Philip, 14, Romana, 16, and Amanda, 23. They were at his bedside when he died. His father Walter, 66, who lives at Springwell, near Sunderland, said: "I feel bitter that this should have happened when everyone had been hoping that peace had come. I was very proud of my son Jim. He really loved the Army."

Warrant Officer Bradwell, of the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers, was close to the first car bomb when it went off and was then injured by the second 15 minutes later, after it exploded near the Army medical centre where he was being treated.

Mr Adams said last night that the Prime Minister should bear the "lion's share of blame". He added: "Personalised attacks are no substitute for real politics. It was the absence of real politics and a good faith engagement by the British Government in the peace process which led to its collapse."

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Record sale for The Times

A record sale of 810,493 a day was achieved by The Times in September. Average daily sales were up by 45,876 on August and by 128,855 (19 per cent) compared with September, 1995, the highest percentage increase of any national newspaper.

Pound on a high

The pound jumped to its highest level against the mark for 20 months as the markets reacted with relief to promises of economic discipline from Kenneth Clarke ..... Page 23

The Times on the Internet
http://www.the-times.co.uk

Women solicitors 'exploited'

By Frances Gibb
legal correspondent

WOMEN solicitors are being discriminated against by an unfair pay scale within their profession which rewards male colleagues with much higher salaries.

Tony Girling, president of the Law Society, said that "shameful" figures, revealed in a survey released yesterday, meant that firms were "exploiting" their female staff, especially at partnership level.

The figures come from the first full-scale survey of the profession carried out by Coopers & Lybrand and Scantel Ltd. Addressing the Law Society's annual conference in Manchester, Mr Girling asked: "How can anyone argue that equality of talent does not justify equality of treatment? Surely those women who have made it to be partners or assistant solicitors are entitled to equal reward with their male colleagues?"

The figures, from the survey based on 579 sample firms in England and Wales, show that on the lower rungs, at the level of assistant or associate solicitor, women earned an average £21,000 compared to men's £24,000. Up the scale, women partners earned £36,000 a year compared with men's £51,000.

Simpson: "put gun to head during chase"

Friend tells of OJ suicide bid

From Giles Whittell
in Los Angeles

O.J. SIMPSON put a gun to his head and pulled the trigger while being chased through Los Angeles by police, his former friend and adviser Robert Kardashian has said. The gun did not go off.

"At first I thought it was a joke," Mr Kardashian told ABC television last night, recalling the freeway chase on the day of Mr Simpson's arrest in 1994 for the murders of Nicole Brown Simpson and Ronald Goldman. But in a conversation from his car phone during the chase the fugitive insisted he had tried to kill himself with a handgun. Mr Kardashian said, adding: "After I hung up I realised he was telling the truth."

In last night's interview Mr Kardashian became the first member of the defence's so-called "Dream Team" to state publicly he now believes Mr Simpson was probably guilty.

Mr Kardashian, a friend of Mr Simpson's for 25 years, played a murky role in last year's murder trial, refusing to answer questions although he was seen on television removing a garment bag from the Simpson mansion on the day after the murders and was suspected of helping to destroy incriminating evidence.

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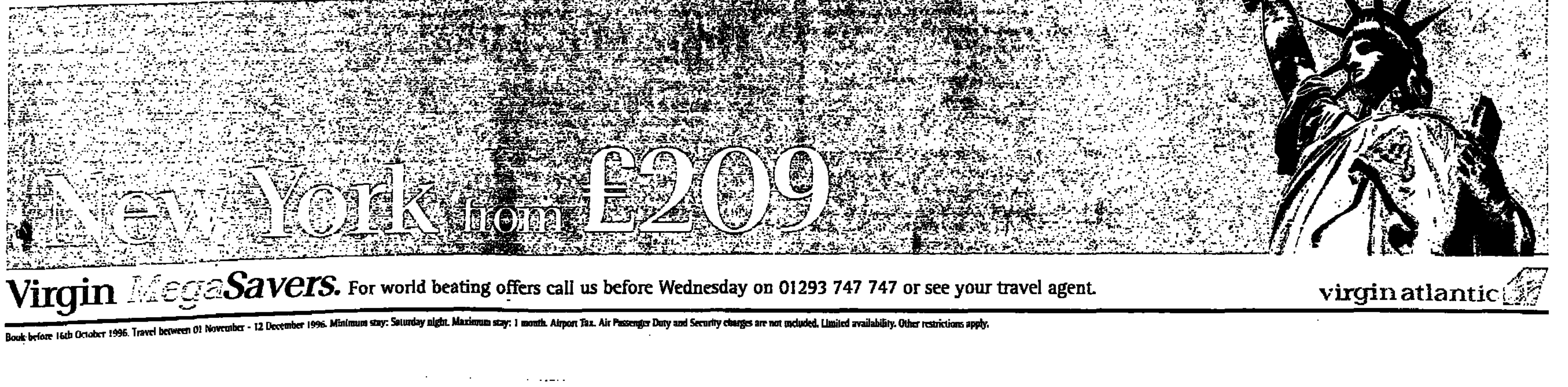

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- **The low-fat cookery course**
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Starting today in *Weekend*, Paul Heiney invites you to join The Times Countryside Campaign

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Noises off enliven a prosaic performance

MATTHEW PARRIS

POLITICAL SKETCH

It often happens on meticulously controlled occasions. The best part of John Major's speech yesterday at Bournemouth was the unintended bit. *Halfway through a* workmanlike but often pedestrian speech, as the Prime Minister explained his hopes for education, a baby began *whimpering. Everybody* laughed. Mr Major looked up from his text. "What I'm talking about is that child's future." Everybody cheered.

Had this been a Labour conference, we would suspect the baby had been hired, Peter Mandelson ready to stick a pin into it at the desired moment; but no, this baby was unscripted.

Tabloid newspapers wanted that baby. They tracked the source of whimpers and tried for exclusive rights of access.

Still, for the few seconds while the child's intervention *remained a real rather than a* media event, the interlude was touching. It provided welcome relief during a flat performance. Mr Major never *sounds less than sincere but* too often seems unable to lift his voice from the workaday register to which it naturally tends. Only rarely — as during a *moving passage on* Northern Ireland, does his delivery reflect any passion he may feel. *When he tries* too consciously to inject *brio* into the performance he sounds like Billy Goat Gruff reading a bedtime story aloud to the kids, trying to liven up the dramatic bits with funny voices.

None of this made the least *difference to his immediate* audience of Tory representatives. They were determined to love it. They did. Mr Major has been viewed this week at Bournemouth with something like adoration by the rank and file, and had Major chanted *Baa Baa Black Sheep* for 50 minutes, his Tory flock would still have applauded wildly and pronounced the speech a splendid demonstration of the difference between their own plain-speaking leader and the hollow theatricality of the Blairite alternative.

The conference had been expertly warmed up. Before the triumphant entrance of John and Norma came a financial appeal. "We have to raise money, and this is where you come in," announced Lord (Cecil) Parkinson, reminding *us what an old sentimentalist* he is, and of the role of ordinary members of the Conservative Party. The Cabinet sashayed on, introduced in the manner of a *Come on Down* (in the case of a few of them, *Waddle on Down*) TV show.

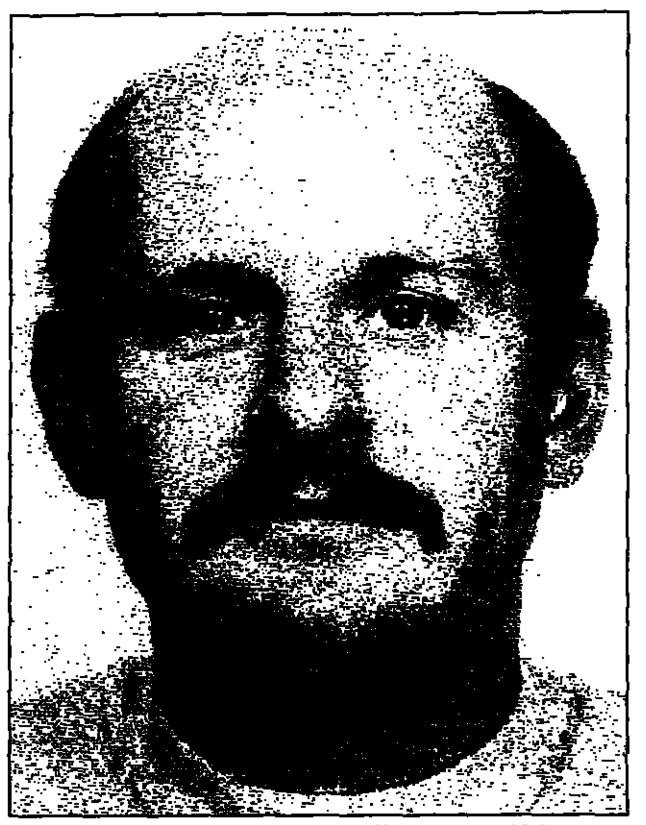
Kenneth Clarke *bounced in* and then bounced off in the wrong direction like an over-eager puppy. After the speech, he sloped off, before the singing was over. *You can argue as* to whether the Chancellor was bored, had discovered that he had double-booked for another engagement, or needed *a pee. All are possible.*

The big guns got the expected cheers. William Hague, Welsh Secretary, got the unexpected cheer. The difference *between expected* cheers and unexpected ones, the difference between polite and genuine applause, *is found in tiny* hesitations, small noises of excitement and the faces of conference-goers. You have to be there, for these are often the portents of things to come. In this art, or science, lies the reason that it remains — however *marginally* — worthwhile to be at the conference.

But I must report to you the experience of a friend with no conference pass, outside the heavily *guarded compound*, where a huge outdoor screen had been erected to relay the conference proceedings to a waiting public. He watched *Major's speech on this screen* — phrases which must have been argued over for weeks by Downing Street aides boomed out along the Dorset cliffs. Two other people were watching. One was a tramp.

Major's Bill aims to clear weapons off Ulster streets

BY ARTHUR LEATHLEY, POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT


James Bradwell, who was badly burnt at Lisburn

JOHN MAJOR yesterday announced legislation aimed at *leading to the surrender of* terrorist weapons in Northern Ireland. To Tory cheers at the party conference *in* Bournemouth, the Prime Minister said: "I want those weapons off the street."

The proposals will be included in the Queen's Speech this month and ministers will then introduce a Bill to pave *the way for an amnesty* to cut the stockpile of firearms, ammunition and bomb-making equipment. *Mr Major also* addressed growing criticism over government accountability in the Province, spelling out plans to give Northern Ireland politicians a greater say in legislation and greater access to ministers.

The firearms legislation will specify the ways in which terrorists can surrender their weapons. The main options will be direct handover to authorities; handover to an independent third party; and "do-it-yourself" decommissioning, with weapons retained by terrorists but a third party verifying they are decommissioned. Terrorists will *be free from prosecution* for possessing weapons, but there will be no amnesty for their *criminal use*.

Although the legislation has been planned since the beginning of the year, Mr Major's announcement reflects growing impatience among Ulster Unionists over the delay in bringing forward moves leading to decommissioning. Northern Ireland politicians had pressed for new laws to be *introduced alongside legislation* passed to allow elections to the Northern Ireland talks.

A start to decommissioning can only be made with the agreement of parties involved in the talks. With Sinn Fein still excluded and fears growing *over the loyalist ceasefire*, government sources admit that there is a long way to go before that agreement is reached. However, Mr Major insisted there could be "no hiding place for those arms, missiles and explosives" and that decommissioning had to run parallel to the talks process. *Unionists* say they will not agree to any proposals to start decommissioning after the talks.

Mr Major also said he wanted to make government in Northern Ireland more accountable and announced *plans to amend the structure* of the political system to allow for greater scrutiny of ministerial decisions. The Government announced plans earlier this year to give the Scottish and Welsh Grand Committees of MPs, *meeting* on home ground, power to question Cabinet ministers, and Mr Major confirmed that he wanted to extend this to Northern Ireland.

Under the plans, which are to be the subject of consultation with the 17 Northern Ireland MPs, the Grand Committee could also have power *to take* evidence on draft legislation. "MPs from there should be able to question the ministers and scrutinise government policies directly in the Grand Committee meeting, sometimes in Northern Ireland."

Major's speech, page 10

Soldier who died from IRA bomb was on last tour

BY MICHAEL EVANS AND PAUL WILKINSON

WARRANT OFFICER James Bradwell, who died yesterday *from wounds sustained* in the IRA attack at Lisburn, was on his first tour of Northern Ireland.

Although he had been in the Army for 19 years and had served in Germany, Canada and Belize, he had never been posted to Ulster and had been there for only two months. It was also to be his last tour of duty before becoming a civilian in less than three years time. He had begun plans for a new *life* outside the Army.

WO Class 1 Bradwell's father Walter, 66, who lives at Springwell, Tyne and Wear, said: "He had been looking forward to finishing in a few years and starting a new life back in his home area, and it is *tragic that he should have* been prevented from doing so in this way."

The last military death in Northern Ireland was of Thomas Withers, a part-time Royal Irish Regiment corporal, who was shot dead in his butcher's shop in Crossgar, Co Down, three weeks before the ceasefire was called at the end of August 1994.

The Royal Victoria Hospital in Belfast disclosed that WO Bradwell, 43, of the Royal Electrical and Mechanical Engineers, died from his injuries, which included burns to 60 per cent of his body and a serious head wound. John Major's condemnation of the IRA at the Conservative conference was echoed by John *Bruton, the Taoiseach.*

Gordon Gray, a chaplain on the Army base at Lisburn, said *that WO Bradwell*'s recent arrival in the *province* "adds another particularly poignant note to the tragedy". He told Radio 4's *World at One*: "It is a *big* shock to soldiers and their families who have come here to a place which was *knowing* a certain level of peace and then suddenly to have this violence break out once again."

Army colleagues said WO Bradwell was a fiercely loyal and professional soldier. He joined the REME in 1977 and *in his previous posting* he was attached to The King's Royal Hussars at Münster, where he was in charge of maintaining the tank regiment's guns.

He and his wife Pam, 41, had already begun hunting for their first home away from married quarters. They were hoping to find a house in their native North-East to share with their two younger children, Romana, 16, and Philip, 14.

☐ A man questioned about the Lisburn bombing was released without charge by the RUC last night.

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Ten-year-old tearaways will be tagged to keep curfews

BY STEWART TENDLER, CRIME CORRESPONDENT

ELECTRONIC tags will keep young tearaways under curfew and off the streets or football terraces, John Major *promised yesterday.*

The Prime Minister told the Conservative Party conference *that tagging would be* extended from adults to offenders aged between ten and 15. "It's worked. We think it will work on younger offenders as well — so we'll try that too."

He said that the courts *would be able to order troublemakers* to stay at home. If the offender could not go out on Friday and Saturday nights with his friends, nor watch football on Saturday afternoons, then it was the offender's fault.

"Not mine, not yours, his," *said Mr Major.* "It's *time the* buck stopped where the responsibility lies. No one will *miss the hooligan* on the terrace."

Critics suggested that the tags would be counterproductive and give youths hero status on the streets. One expert estimated that as many as 47,000 young offenders *might be eligible.*

Tagging is still undergoing trials with adults in three areas of the country. The experiment has run into repeated problems and only 80 tags are in use. The cost of tagging an offender is put at £60,000 a year.

Tags were launched in 1986 in the United States, where about 40,000 offenders wear *them. Thirty-three* per cent are traffic offenders, 20 per cent are burglars or thieves and 15 per cent are drug offenders.

The tags were *tested in* Britain in 1989 on offenders on remand but experiments *collapsed because* of technical difficulties. A new set of trials, which began in 1995 in Norfolk, Greater Manchester and Reading, Berkshire, has also *run into* trouble.

One offender broke his curfew 26 times. Another man was beaten up because he was mistaken for a sex offender and another threw his tag into a pond, declaring *it* made him feel like a dog.

Harry Fletcher, assistant general secretary of the National Association of Probation Officers, *estimated that* there were 35,500 boys and 12,000 girls between ten and *14 convicted* or cautioned each year. He said children might not understand what was happening while for others the tags would become a "badge of pride". Humiliating or shaming them would not work.

Barry Anderson, *head of* youth crime work at the National Association for the Care *and* Resettlement of Offenders, said it would be better to use supervision orders and work with families.

Cowdrey first to bat in plan to boost sport

BY JAMES LANDALE, POLITICAL REPORTER

STARS of sport are to tour schools and encourage the pupils to play more competitive games, John Major announced yesterday.

Led by *Sir Colin Cowdrey*, they are to act as "sporting ambassadors", visiting primary *and secondary schools*, from the new year, as part of the Prime Minister's "Raising the Game" campaign to restore sport to the heart of school life.

Sir Colin, the former England cricket captain, 63, who was in the audience at the Tory party conference, will head a committee of sports *stars* to co-ordinate *the project* with teachers and officials from the Sports Council. Mr Major is to meet the committee soon, with Iain Sproat, the Sports Minister.

The Department of National Heritage is drawing up a list of stars, initially from team games, some of whom have already been approached. Their names will be released once agreement has been reached. The scheme, partly funded by private sponsorship, is likely to begin on a pilot basis, concentrating on small clusters of schools *in* various areas.

Leading article, page 19

Times to pay libel damages

THE TIMES was ordered to pay £145,000 in libel damages by a Belfast jury yesterday to the firm of solicitors that *defended Private Lee Clegg.*

The newspaper did not deny that allegations made by supporters of the paratrooper at a press conference were defamatory to the firm of McCartan, Turkington, Breen. However, it claimed qualified privilege because a front-page article in the newspaper, which reported the allegations, was a fair and accurate report of a public meeting. But Mr Justice Girvan *ruled at the High* Court in Belfast that the conference was not a public *meeting. This left* the amount of damages as the only issue for the jury to decide after John Thompson, QC, for the newspaper, had apologised to the *plaintiffs on behalf of* Times Newspapers Ltd.

The firm defended Private Clegg at his original trial in Belfast in 1993 where he was convicted of the *murder* of Karen Reilly in West Belfast in 1990. The paratrooper had *opened* fire on Miss *Reilly*'s car, which was being driven by a joyrider, after it had sped through a security check point.

He was *freed on licence in* July 1995 after a campaign led by a group of retired officers from the Parachute Regiment, which was launched at the conference in January 1995. The conference was called after the House of Lords *confirmed the* murder conviction.

NEWS IN BRIEF

MP blames tablets for tumble

The Conservative MP Sir *Nicholas Scott yesterday* blamed the painkillers he is taking for a back *injury* for being found lying in the street while attending the party conference in Bournemouth. The 63-year-old MP for Chelsea said: "I *had a very bad* back injury and I've been taking painkillers. I think that explains part of the problem." He agreed it might have been the result of taking painkillers after a couple of drinks.

Prince's aide

The Prince of Wales has appointed Stephen Lamport as his new private *secretary to succeed* Richard Aylard, effectively dismissed last week. A former diplomat, he has been the Prince's deputy private secretary for three years. *Simon Jenkins, p18*

Birth case ends

Maureen Flynn discontinued her High Court action against Dr Grant Winstock and Merton, *Sutton and Wandsworth* Health Authority over the doctor's failure to diag*nose* her pregnancy. A judgment was recorded in favour of the defence.

A dog's strife

A police force is testing body armour on its dogs to protect them from attack during riots and public disorder. Merseyside Police has issued two German Shepherd dogs with rubber-coated 8mm thick *neoprene suits, costing* £50 each, and boots.

Eclipse of Sun

The best solar eclipse in Britain since 1961 *should* be visible this afternoon, weather permitting. At 3.15pm about half the Sun will be covered. *Astronomers gave a warning that* the 2½ hour eclipse must not be viewed with the naked eye.

هكذا من الأصل

هكذا من الأصل

Accountant stole £240,000 from trusting Church

By Ruth Gledhill and Bill Frost

Bailey: siphoned cash from parish accounts

AN ACCOUNTANT who systematically plundered almost £240,000 from the Church of England to fund an extravagant lifestyle last night began a three-year jail sentence.

Dean Bailey was "a classic Walter Mitty character" who bought friends with expensive dinners and gifts, and whose charitable donations included sums to English National Opera and the Royal Opera House Trust. His salary was £19,000 a year.

Unmasked after a senior colleague became suspicious of his extravagant spending, Bailey, 34, pleaded guilty yesterday at Southwark Crown Court to 12 specimen counts of theft amounting to almost £50,000. He asked for 56 other offences to be considered which involved a further £188,378 donated by mostly poor parishes to the Diocese of London.

Bailey had seen flaws in the accounting system soon after he took a job six years ago at the diocesan headquarters in Westminster, working under his father-in-law, the Rev Ronald Vaughan.

For centuries the diocese conducted its financial affairs on the basis that people claiming to be Christians were worthy of trust. Gentlemen's agreements and familial relationships set up bonds of loyalty that did as much as the law and any number of accountants to secure parish funds for posterity.

But with the rise of materialism and secularism in the 1980s and 1990s, it became clear that traditional and sometimes eccentric ways of running church finances were not enough. Bailey had not targeted the main fund used to manage parish donations but siphoned off money from smaller accounts, such as those set up for bequests or property sales. Last night the Bishop of London, the Right Rev Richard Chartres, said: "I can reassure parishes that provisions are in place to prevent such an occurrence ever happening again."

Those provisions, and the uncovering of the fraud, are largely due to Chris Smith, an accountant and personnel manager with 22 years' experience in the City of London. He was appointed secretary of the diocese in 1994 and his first step was to tighten up the "somewhat loose" accounting methods.

It was the checks and balances that Mr Smith introduced that finally, with the help of Richard Walker, a new accountant he had hired, uncovered Bailey's frauds. At first his convincing apologies and reassurances that discrepancies were nothing other than simple mistakes forestalled further action. Mr Smith did not uncover hard evidence of fraud until he discovered and stopped a cheque for £5,000 made payable by Bailey to himself.

Martin Rutherford, for the prosecution, told the court: "After that his behaviour in the office changed. He started offering cricket tickets to his superior and asking to make the coffee." Bailey was confronted at a disciplinary hearing and the truth began to emerge.

The picture was of a man out of touch with reality. In just one example, over four years Bailey, of Bethnal Green, east London, gave £22,500 to English National Opera. He bought numerous opera and Test Match tickets. "There was also a two-week holiday to Jamaica," Mr Rutherford said.

Bailey became a member of Surrey Cricket Club and was a frequent visitor to Royal Ascot. On trips to the West End he regularly thrust £20 notes on beggars sleeping in doorways.

His wife Rosemary, who did not suspect him, gave birth to their first child, Hannah, three years ago. Jim Sturman, representing Bailey in court, said: "Now his marriage has broken down — divorce is inevitable. He has lost his wife and friends, those he treated to tickets at the opera."

Mr Smith, who is continuing to investigate where he can improve procedures, said: "My main concern is about parish trust. The relationship between the parishes and the dioceses is very important. No system can be foolproof if someone is determined to get around things, but we are tightening up all the time."

Westwood vamps it up in seductive history class

From Grace Bradberry in Paris

JERRY HALL played the vamp yesterday in Vivienne Westwood's outrageously witty show for Paris. There were shouts and whistles from photographers as Mrs Jagger strode down the catwalk in a high-waisted, pinstriped suit.

Westwood unveiled what amounted to a history of provocative dressing. There were 18th-century shepherdesses with their skirts ruched at the back, 1950s St Tropez girls in hot-pants, and even a French maid in a black satin dress with white lace apron.

The models, in haystack wigs that would have made Marie Antoinette weep, played it for all it was worth. Stella Tennant flirted in a checked mini-dress with matching knickers and suspenders. Eminently wearable were 1940 flip-skirts, jersey cocktail dresses which draped at the back and front, and fitted suits with short tail-coats.

The least wearable but the most fabulous were the ball gowns. Kate Moss led the way in a violet strapless dress with spiralling ribbons and a huge taffeta flower at the front. Next came an astonishing kimono-style dress in multi-coloured patched taffeta. But even Miss Hall, a veteran of the catwalk, had difficulty walking in a purple satin ball dress with a huge train.

SIMON WALKER

Jerry Hall models a ball gown in Vivienne Westwood's Paris collection yesterday

Prison for dentist who faked NHS call-out fees

By A Staff Reporter

A DENTIST who fiddled £20,000 from the health service by claiming bogus emergency call-out fees was jailed for 12 months yesterday.

Ha Wai Edmund Chan, 41, who ran a practice in Rushden, Northamptonshire, pretended that treatment given during normal hours was done on Sundays to claim fees worth about £40 a time. His total income was more than £200,000, Northampton Crown Court was told.

Chan, a member of his local dental committee and an adjudicator at hearings for other dentists accused of malpractice, persuaded patients to sign blank treatment forms and got his staff to fill in dates later. When investigators became suspicious he got staff to help him to fake dental record cards. The money was routinely paid into his bank account.

Michael Joyce, for the prosecution, said investigators sent questionnaires to 38 of Chan's patients and the "systematic defrauding of NHS funds" was revealed. Chan admitted 13 counts of false accounting, one of forgery and one of attempting to pervert the course of justice.

The court was told that, in addition to the £200,000 a year he received from his own NHS work, he earned another £150,000 a year after taking a 50 per cent share of his associates' earnings at the practice. He also had a healthy private practice and outside business interests.

Woman, 87, raped during five-hour attack in home

By Paul Wilkinson

POLICE hope a public outcry will help them to find a man who raped an 87-year-old spinster while holding her captive in her home for most of the night.

It was almost seven hours after her attacker fled under cover of darkness before the woman, 5ft tall and weighing 6st, was able to seek help from a neighbour. Police later praised her resolution after being left cut, bruised and highly distressed.

Detective Inspector Jim Campbell, who is leading the investigation, said: "My officers have been left shocked at the sheer depravity and maliciousness of this attack on such an elderly and frail lady.

"We hope the local community will also be shocked at this vicious crime and help us all they can."

The attack began about 10pm on Wednesday when the woman answered a knock at the back door of her bungalow in the Silksworth area of Sunderland, Tyne & Wear. The man spoke to her briefly before forcing his way inside. During the next five hours he raped her, subjected her to another serious sexual assault and physically attacked her.

Mr Campbell said: "She has been astonishingly brave, strong and resolute. Interviewing her is a delicate and lengthy process. The inquiry is moving along at her pace. We need to catch this man but our first concern is for her. She feels absolutely awful. She is particularly frail. She has recently been ill with shingles and hasn't been out of the house in six weeks.

"She could be anyone's grandmother. She is quite a naive woman who was born when her parents were particularly elderly and she looked after them until their death.

"She has never had any work and lived in the same area the whole of her life. Although she has no blood relatives she has a number of very close friends."

The woman is well-known and liked in Silksworth. She was cared for after the attack by friends from the local church where she worshipped.

The rapist is described as aged between 18 and 30, at least 5ft 4in tall, with short hair and a local accent. Detectives were checking files on cases elsewhere, and looking at offender profiles.

Mr Campbell said: "It is within the realms of possibility that this man will attack again and I want him taken out of circulation."

A woman who lives opposite said: "I sat at home this morning and wept because I felt so guilty and ashamed that I hadn't been able to do anything. This happened yards from my door and I knew nothing about it."

Later the victim was admitted to hospital for observation.

Policeman's 'persecuted' son is freed from prison

By A Staff Reporter

A POLICE chief's son who killed a 77-year-old woman when speeding across traffic lights was freed from jail yesterday after serving four months of an 18-month sentence.

Stuart Leivers, 23, tried to kill himself when he was jailed, the Court of Appeal was told. He was a target of abuse from fellow inmates at The Wolds prison because of his father, a chief inspector, and his mother, who is head of security at Doncaster prison.

Leivers, from Mansfield in Nottinghamshire, was jailed, disqualified from driving for three years and ordered to retake his test by Nottingham Crown Court on June 13. He had admitted causing death by dangerous driving in November last year.

He had accelerated to 48mph in his Ford Escort RS Turbo, overtaking the car in front in his attempt to catch a green traffic light. The lights changed as he sped across and he collided with the victim.

Justin Rouse, for Leivers, argued for a cut in the sentence because alcohol, drugs and racing played no part in the offence and the speed was not vastly excessive.

Mr Justice Rougier, sitting with Lord Justice Hutchison and Judge van der Werff, announced the sentence would be cut to eight months, allowing Leivers to be freed this weekend.

Rage against age is top poem

By Dalya Alberge

AN ODE to growing old disgracefully, Jenny Joseph's *Warning*, has emerged as the nation's favourite postwar poem.

In a poll organised by BBC Education for National Poetry Day, she beat Stevie Smith's *Not Waving But Drowning*, Dylan Thomas's *Do Not Go Gentle Into That Good Night* and Philip Larkin's *This Be The Verse*. Daisy Goodwin, a BBC producer, said: "This might seem a surprising choice of winner, as Jenny Joseph isn't perhaps such a well-known name as some other modern poets. But it is a delightful, engaging poem which speaks to everyone who is facing the prospect of growing older with a sinking heart."

The poll allowed votes for rock lyrics but even John Lennon could only make it to No. 32. Ms Goodwin said: "If we had been looking for the nation's favourite poets rather than poem, the winners would have been Larkin, Thomas and John Betjeman."

Joseph, who was born in 1932 in Birmingham, read English at Oxford and has worked as a reporter, pub landlady and lecturer. Her poetry volumes, which include *Rose in the Afternoon*, have won awards; she is also the author of six children's books.

Warning **by Jenny Joseph**

When I am an old woman I shall wear purple
With a red hat that doesn't go and doesn't suit me.
And I shall spend my pension on brandy and summer gloves
And satin sandals and say we've no money for butter.
I shall sit down on the pavement when I'm tired
And gobble up samples in shops and press alarm bells
And run my stick along the public railings
And make up for the sobriety of my youth.
I shall go out in my slippers in the rain
And pick the flowers in other people's gardens
And learn to spit.

You can wear terrible shirts and grow more fat
And eat three pounds of sausages at a go
Or only eat bread and pickle for a week
And hoard pens and pencils and beermats and things in boxes.

But now we must have clothes that keep us dry
And pay our rent and not swear in the street
And set a good example for the children.
We must have friends to dinner and read the papers.

But maybe I ought to practise a little now?
So people who know me are not too shocked and surprised
When suddenly I am old and start to wear purple.

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THE SUNDAY TIMES

The strange death of Tory England

“It is essentially Tory ideas — from the primacy of the market in economics, to the need to reassert traditional values in education and law and order — that now dominate the political agenda. So how can it be that it is the Tories, rather than their opponents, who are facing political annihilation . . ?”

Robert Harris (pictured), News Review, The Sunday Times tomorrow

Abortion ‘increases chances of breast cancer by a third’

By Jeremy Laurance, health correspondent

WOMEN who have an abortion increase by a third their risk of developing breast cancer, researchers reported yesterday.

The finding suggests that thousands of cases of breast cancer each year can be attributed to the effects of abortion. The number will rise sharply into the next century as the first group of women who had abortions after they were legalised in the 1970s age and the risk of cancer rises.

Scientists at the City University, New York, who analysed results from 23 studies of breast cancer said the link with abortion had been noted since the 1950s but had been played down. They cite recent reviews of breast cancer which have appeared in the *New England Journal of Medicine* and *The Lancet* but which have failed to mention abortion among risk factors.

The American researchers led by Joel Brind, Professor of Endocrinology, say abortion accounts for 5,000 cases of breast cancer in the US each year, which will rise to 25,000 by the middle of the next century. Abortion is the commonest non-emergency operation performed in America with 800,000 first-time cases a year.

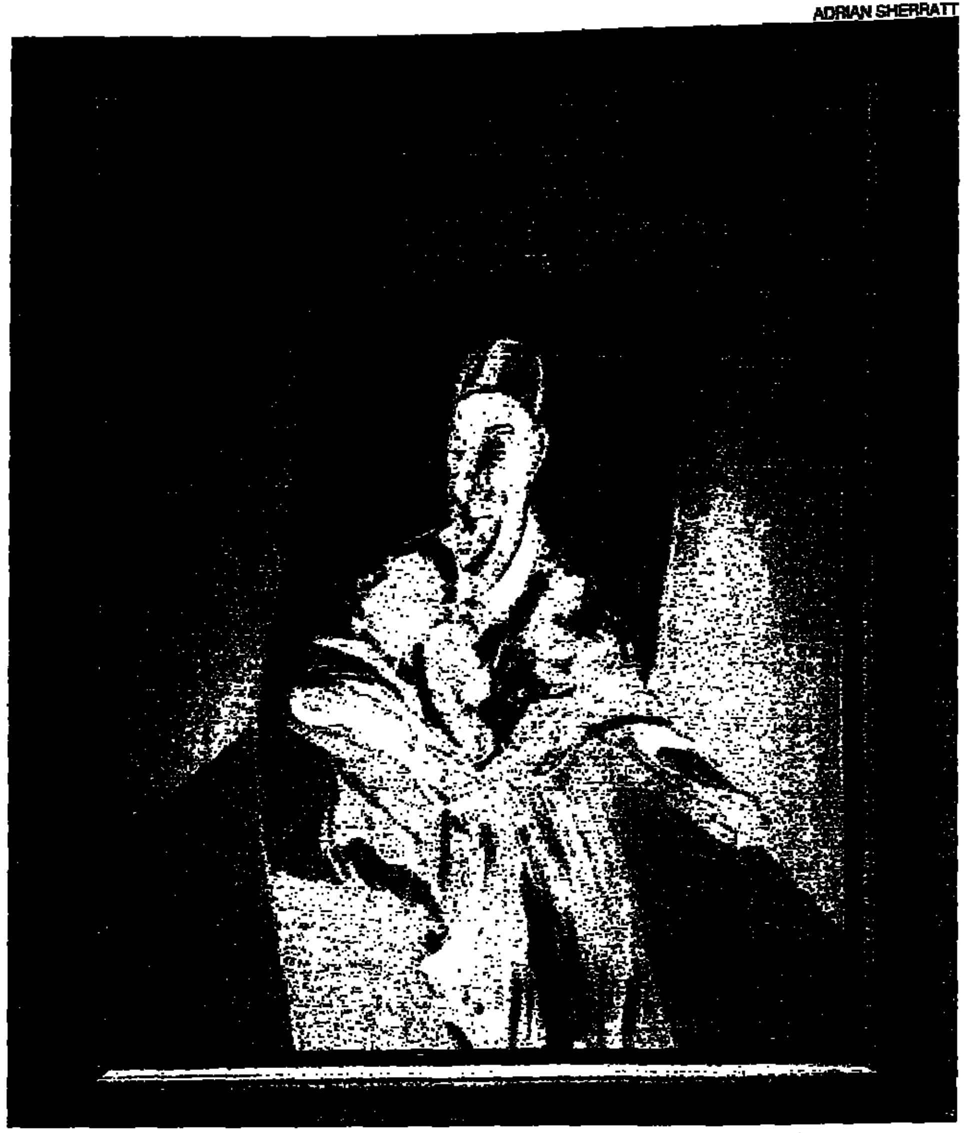
British experts have treated the findings with caution. Ann Furedi, director of the Birth Control Trust, denied that the risks had been played down and that they had to be seen in the context of other known risks for breast cancer. "If you wait until 35 for a first pregnancy it doubles your risk of breast cancer, and if you bottle feed instead of breast feed your baby the risk is increased by a fifth," she said.

The American authors say that the introduction of legalised abortion may be one factor behind the rising incidence of breast cancer in the past 25 years. The increased risk, they say, is seen in studies from around the world, in populations with the widest differences in ethnic, diet, socio-economic and lifestyle factors.

Professor Brind, who has studied the link between sex hormones and disease for 25 years, said women who had a miscarriage did not suffer the same risk because it did not result in high levels of oestrogen. "Excess exposure to oestrogen is involved in most known breast cancer risk factors, but in most pregnancies that end in miscarriage, oestrogen levels never get off the ground , so breast cancer risk is not increased," he said.

The authors say that abortion is often presented as a much safer procedure than live birth, which has a death rate 12 times higher. However, given the high incidence of breast cancer, which affects one woman in twelve in America and one in eight in the UK, any increase in breast cancer risk would make abortion far more risky than live birth.

ADRIAN SHERRATT



Bacon's *Seated Figure (Red Cardinal)*: "frustration, impotence and agony"

‘Lost’ Bacon painting expected to fetch £1.5m

By Dalya Alberge
Arts correspondent

A PAINTING by Francis Bacon not seen in public for 35 years and known to scholars only from a black and white photograph is expected to fetch £1.5 million at auction.

Seated Figure (Red Cardinal), which dates from 1960, is one of 20 images from Bacon's Papal series. Most are in museums. After being exhibited in 1961, it was purchased by an American collector and on his death was sold in the 1970s to an anonymous European. The painting's whereabouts remained unknown until its appearance at Christie's.

The image was inspired by Velázquez's *Portrait of Pope Innocent X* in Rome. Bacon contorted the image into a threatening, disfigured character that reflected the pain and bleakness of human existence. Brett Gorvy, director of contemporary art at Christie's, said: "The pope's face is acid-burned and purple-bruised and has the texture of rotting flesh. Frustration, impotence and agony are all registered."

The picture will be shown in Antwerp, Zurich, Paris and New York before being auctioned in London on December 4.

Bacon's meaning, page 18

NEWS IN BRIEF

£8m heroin found on fans’ bus

Heroin worth £8 million has been found in a coach that took Polish football supporters to Wembley for the international match against England on Wednesday.

The discovery was made when Customs officers searched the vehicle as it arrived at Dover for the return journey. It is believed that the 100 kilograms of heroin were brought over in the hope of finding a buyer. The 12 fans on board, including the driver of the coach, which left Cracow on Tuesday, were arrested.

Labour MP dies

Terry Patchett, the Labour MP for Barnsley East, has died after a long battle with cancer. He was 56. Labour is likely to hold an early by-election and will almost certainly retain the seat. Mr Patchett's majority was 24,777.

Anti-drugs drive

An Irish government taskforce set up after the investigative journalist Veronica Guerin was murdered is to spend £14 million to combat heroin addiction in Dublin and Cork. Police believe her murder was ordered by a drug baron.

Needle in pork

Pamela Yeomans, of Pye Bridge, Derbyshire, found a 3in hypodermic needle in a joint of pork she and her children were about to eat. Local health officials, who are examining the meat, believe it could have been a vet's needle.

Director crushed

A company director has been killed by a heavy iron mould that fell on him from a lifting machine at his factory. Michael Lewis, 52, of Burnham, Buckinghamshire, was a co-director of Pace Mould Ltd, in High Wycombe.

Kerrs divorce

The actress Patsy Kensit and her rock star husband Jim Kerr were granted a quickie divorce in the High Court. Kerr, 36, will pay 28-year-old Kensit £2,500 a month for care of their son James and £350 a week for a nanny.

Passing comment

In a new national campaign for cleaner public lavatories, establishments such as pubs and restaurants will display stickers inviting customers to phone a freephone number and comment on the state of the lavatories.

Medical curios

The world's largest collection of gallstones is being put on display at the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital as part of an exhibition of old medical specimens and equipment.

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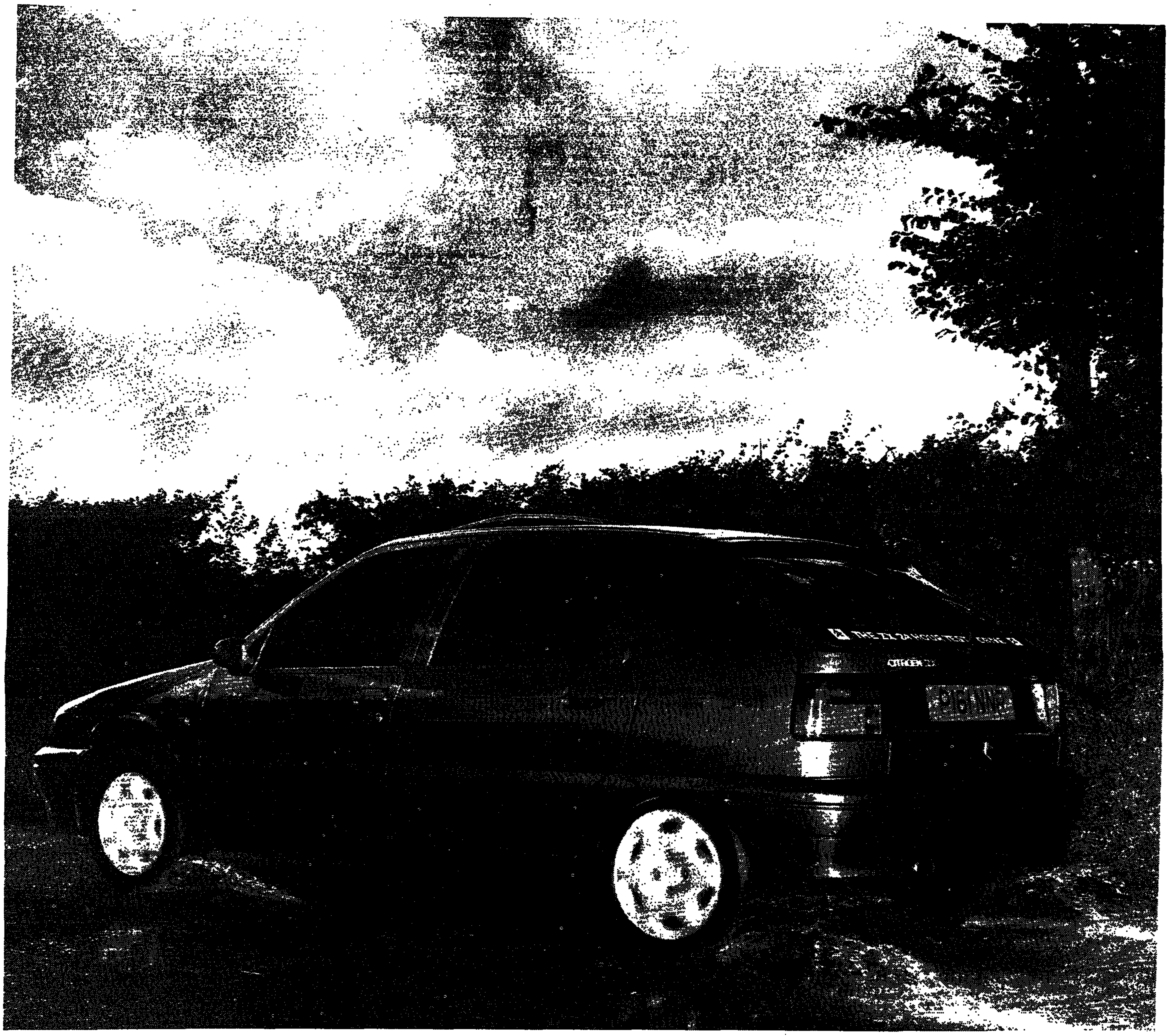

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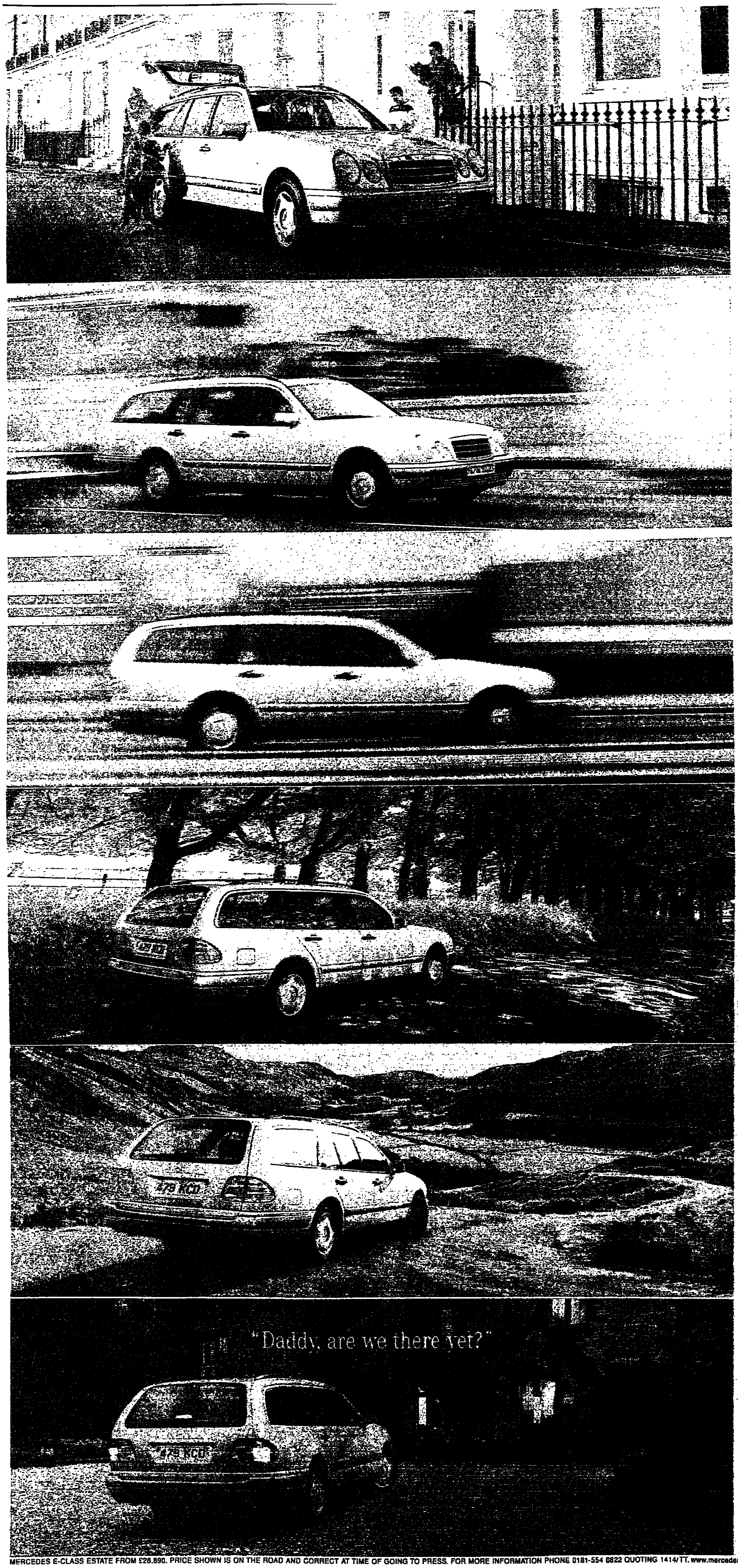

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Poverty study gives Prue Leith a taste of reality

By DOMINIC KENNEDY
SOCIAL AFFAIRS CORRESPONDENT

PRUE LEITH, the millionaire caterer, has become a champion of the dispossessed after visiting council estates to talk to the poor about their lives.

The former Business Woman of the Year lost her faith in "trickle-down" economics while touring Tesco with a single mother who has to raise a five-year-old son on £80 a week. Ms Leith, undertaking the task as a member of the Channel 4 Poverty Commission, was shattered as she watched Annie Oliver reject a 68p carton of fruit juice because it was too expensive.

The Cordon Bleu cook, who once sat on the board of Safeway and is vice-chairwoman of Women in Finance and Banking, was unaware of the price of a pint of milk, according to the makers of *The Great, the Good and the Dispossessed*, to be shown on Channel 4 tonight.

"She was amazed at the way people calculate everything to the last penny. When she goes shopping she throws things in," said Miss Oliver, 27, who lives with her son Alex in a council maisonette in Bristol.

"She had some odd ideas. She said it was very sad that the homeless people used the local park as a toilet and wondered whether we should build them toilets. I said no, we should build them homes."

Ms Leith, 56, has a £1 million farm in the Cotswolds, and a £250,000 flat in west London. As a member of the Channel 4 commission, which spent four months investigating the problems of the poor, she now advocates higher taxes for the rich, a massive programme of public works to solve unemployment, and the building of more council houses.

> ‘I didn’t realise the money doesn’t get to the poorest’

Prue Leith, who found middle-class ideas didn't work

She said: "I've always had this very straight economic — capitalist if you like — argument that what we need is a vibrant, healthy economy and money will flow right through the system and make poor people richer. What I didn't realise was how the money doesn't get to the very poorest, even if the average wage goes up."

At the supermarket, she learnt the "survival strategies" of the poor. "I kept saying things to her [Miss Oliver] as a middle-class woman, very bossy, going round the supermarket thinking I knew everything."

She told Miss Oliver to buy a bumper pack of apples instead of one per day, but the mother explained that her son would eat too many and they would be left with no apples and no money. Ms Leith chided Miss Oliver for buying Jaffa cakes, which are full of sugar and fat, and suggested raw carrots would be healthier. Miss Oliver explained that she wanted her son to have something sweet to finish every meal and the cakes would last a week.

Ms Leith has lost patience with those who argue that because people on council estates have modern conveniences, satellite dishes and designer sports shoes, nobody in Britain is poor. "Only the rich can afford to go *without* microwave ovens," she says. "They are the cheapest way to heat a potato. The cheapest way to keep the children quiet is to put them in front of the television.

"It is very easy for middle-class people like me to say to my children, 'Tough, you have to have Marks & Spencer trainers'. When children have so little this sort of label badge, whether it is Reebok or whatever, assumes much more importance to them."

The Channel 4 commissioners say that people are poor if they are "isolated from engaging in the normal activities of society". They decided that the European definition of poverty — anyone living below half average wages — was too narrow, although that already classifies 14 million Britons as poor.

Ms Leith said the salaries of "fat cat" directors, who can earn 300 times as much as their lowliest workers, were obscene. In her own catering business, which she has sold, the managing director was paid only three times as much as the kitchen porter.

Panel urges salary limit on ‘fat cats’

By DOMINIC KENNEDY

A MAXIMUM wage should be imposed on "fat cat" company executives to close the growing gap between rich and poor, according to the Channel 4 Poverty Commission, which was created to try to solve the problem of the poor in Britain.

The commission members are calling on captains of industry to set a ceiling on their salaries of 25 times that of their worst-paid workers. In a firm that pays a cleaner £3 an hour, the maximum boardroom salary would be about £140,000 a year. Many leading directors now get close to £700,000.

The idea of capping top salaries has been successfully pioneered by the John Lewis Partnership. The commissioners — the chairman Professor Peter Townsend, a social policy expert; Prue Leith; Sir Stephen Tumim, the former Chief Inspector of Prisons; and Jatinder Verma, the Asian arts entrepreneur — suggest a minimum wage of £4 an hour to be accepted voluntarily by employers.

They recommend that a standing, non-partisan Commission on Poverty should be established by the Government to monitor the problem. Every deprived area in the country should have its own further education college to train people in skills for which there is a demand in the local jobs market.

The commission accepts there is a close connection between poverty and crime and calls for the alleviation of poverty among prisoners' families. It also wants cheap public transport.

Professor Townsend, said that neither of the main political parties has poverty on its agenda. "Redistribution and taxation is unpalatable to Labour," he said.

Miss Oliver and Ms Leith shopped together at Tesco

Protected status is claimed by crofters

By A STAFF REPORTER

SCOTTISH crofters are appealing to the Government for official recognition as indigenous people in a bid to protect their way of life. They say that under United Nations rules their case is similar to that of Indian tribes and the Maoris.

Fraser MacLeod, director of the Scottish Crofters' Union, said recognition was vital to the development of the Highlands and would prevent problems that crofting communities suffered under absentee landlords.

He added: "We have had several experts looking at this proposal and they agree that under the UN international treaties and legislation we could be recognised as indigenous people. This would give us greater control over our future and safeguard the crofting way of life and the Gaelic language."

The crofters plan to attend the annual UN conference on indigenous people in Geneva next July to put forward their case. Mr MacLeod said that official recognition would also allow crofters the right to self-government at local level and give them rights over land and resources.

"We have unique legislation in crofting and we now want the Government to enter the debate as to how this can be developed to the benefit of everyone in the Highlands."

He claimed that recognition would help in cases such as the campaign by residents of Eigg in the Inner Hebrides to buy the island and avert problems with an absentee landlord.

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Support grows for radio attack on gay church service

By Ruth Gledhill, Religion Correspondent

SUPPORT for the clergyman's wife who used the BBC's *Thought for the Day* to attack the Church of England's stance on homosexuality was growing yesterday on both the traditionalist and evangelical wings of the Church.

Anne Atkins, who is a conservative evangelical, remained unrepentant. She said her telephone had not stopped ringing with messages of support since the controversial Radio 4 broadcast on Thursday morning.

Mrs Atkins, whose husband Shaun is priest-in-charge of St Dionis at Parson's Green, southwest London, had attacked bishops for supporting a celebration in Southwark Cathedral, southeast London, to mark 20 years of the Lesbian and Gay Christian Movement. She criticised the Church for "failing to sound the trumpet" for biblical morality.

The broadcast prompted an unprecedented complaint from the Church of England. A spokesman said it was inaccurate, criticised the BBC for allowing the slot to be used to attack an organisation with no right of reply, and demanded an apology.

Mrs Atkins is one of several new contributors to the religious slot in the *Today* programme after seven middle-aged male clergy were "rested". One of these, the Ven George Austin, Archdeacon of York, said he had been impressed by the piece.

Yesterday Mrs Atkins returned to the programme to defend her broadcast. "I am not anti-gay — I've got close friends who are gay," she said. "But the Church must have the courage to say what it believes, however unpopular or politically incorrect."

The Right Rev Edwin Barnes, the Bishop of Richborough and one of the "flying bishops" ministering to traditionalists who oppose women priests, said: "I was pleased to hear her piece. It seemed to me to redress the balance. There are many people who are heartily sick of what they see as a terrible drift in the Church of England. I think Mrs Atkins will get a lot of support."

The November service at the cathedral has aroused criticism from evangelicals who are urging parishes in the diocese to withold financial contributions in protest.

But the Rev Richard Kirker, secretary of the Lesbian and Gay Christian Movement, told Mrs Atkins on *Today* that she had made "many inaccuracies and slurs". He invited her to join him at the service to "give thanks for our sexual orientation to God".

The BBC said the broadcast had prompted a "considerable number of complaints" but could not give a figure.

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At Your Service, Weekend, page 13

PETER TRIEVNOR

Anne Atkins with her husband Shaun: "The Church must have courage"

Credo

Gossip can pass on inner truths

Richard Harries

Most human beings enjoy gossip. And afterwards most of them feel slightly guilty about it. "I love gossip," Malcolm Muggeridge wrote. "I confess I am far more interested in who sleeps with whom than in who voted for whom". W.H. Auden defended gossip on the BBC in 1937. He challenged his listeners: "Who would rather learn the facts of Augustus's imperial policy than discover he had spots on his stomach? No one."

Yet gossip has a bad name and most of us feel uneasy about it. This is partly because a great deal of gossip is malicious. It is designed to do down the other person in some way. It is also due to the fact that gossip spreads. The result is a contagion, a distorted, damaging picture of someone going the rounds. So what can be said in defence of gossip? First, in gossip people are usually real. They are saying what they really feel and think. In gossip, what we are really interested in comes out, revealing something perhaps about other people and certainly about ourselves. Then gossip presumes a certain intimacy. It depends upon a sense of private sharing. Auden wanted to go beyond this. He argued that "all art is based on gossip" and that "gossip is the art form of the man and woman in the street". Muggeridge said that because gossip is about "the absurdities and frailties, the gargoyle side of life", it helped to mock our trivial lives, "which is half way to seeking the divine".

Those are grandiose ambitions. I will content myself by claiming only reality and intimacy. But there is still gossip and gossip. D. H. Lawrence in *Lady Chatterley's Lover* made the distinction:

Connie was fascinated, listening to her. But afterwards always a little ashamed. She ought not to listen to this queer rabid curiosity. After all, one may hear the most private affairs of other people, but only in a spirit of respect for the struggling, battered thing which any human soul is, and in a spirit of fine, discriminative sympathy.

As so often, Lawrence gets it right. "A spirit of respect for the struggling, battered thing which any human soul is." There is speculation and gossip at the moment about the Pope's health. Some of this is genuine concern: but some is looking beyond his death to who might succeed him. This highlights the remarkable origin of the word *gossip*. It comes from the middle English combination of God and sib (hence sibling). It denoted the spiritual affinity of the baptised and their sponsors. The only gossip that is worth hearing is that which is rooted in this spiritual affinity, whether with the Pope or someone's lover.

A few years ago the phrase "gossiping the Gospel" was doing the rounds. This means talking about prayer or the love of God in a way that is as natural and easy as chatting to a good friend. It poses an interesting question. Are we as real, in talking about God, as we are in discussing the foibles and frailties of our friends? It is difficult to talk about the things of God without adopting a pious tone. When we can, it is a sign that our beliefs are truly part of us.

☐ *The Right Rev Richard Harries is the Bishop of Oxford.*

Every Saturday in this Newspaper

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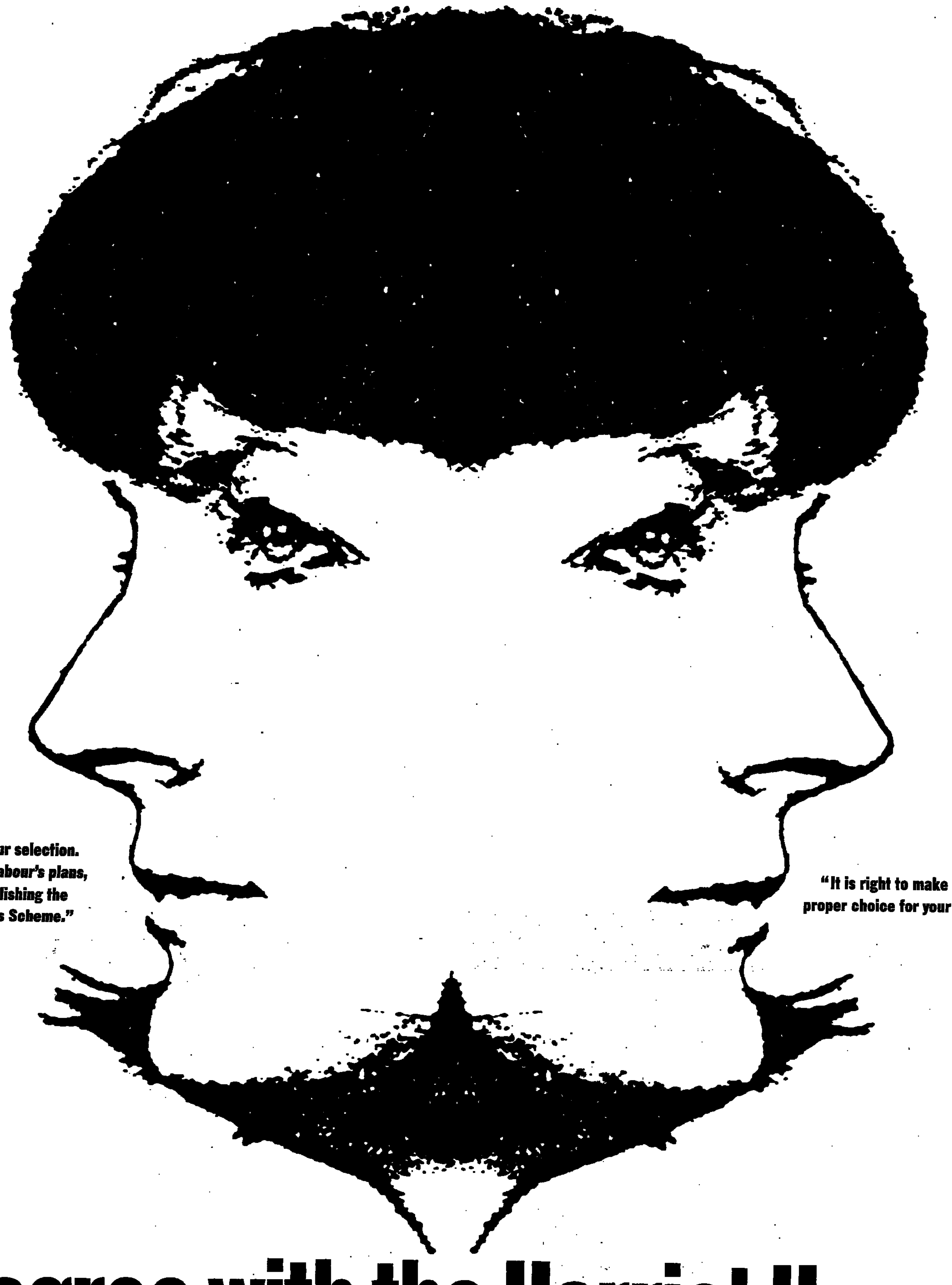

"I do not favour selection. I fully support Labour's plans, including abolishing the Assisted Places Scheme."

"It is right to make the proper choice for your child."

We agree with the Harriet Harman on the right.

New Labour can't have it both ways. Freedom of choice can't be right for Harriet Harman's child and wrong for everyone else's.

We applaud Ms.Harman because, like every other right-thinking parent, she has chosen to put the education of her child before political dogma.

This has proved to be a very courageous thing to do given the *strength of opinion in her Party* against parents who send their children to schools of their choice – whether they happen to be state or independent.

At New Labour's recent conference Tony Blair said he wants every child to be educated at a State School.

There's nothing independent schools would like more than to keep politics out of education.

Unfortunately some politicians just won't leave us alone. So independent Schools have no alternative but to speak out, using hard-earned money raised by parents.

First, Labour said they were going to abolish independent schools altogether.

But then they discovered that their supporters didn't actually want independent schools abolished.

So *instead of a head-on confrontation, they switched to a new plan.* Undermine the schools instead.

New Labour's current policy threatens the Charitable Status of independent schools. The *result?* To force up school fees so fewer parents could *afford* them. This, of course, would *make* independent schools more exclusive – and New Labour would criticise that.

Both the Liberal Democrats and New Labour have pledged to abolish The Assisted Places Scheme.

The Scheme was set up to achieve precisely what New Labour and the Liberal Democrats *say they want* – *greater integration of* independent schools.

The Assisted Places Scheme will enable almost 40,000 children from low income families to attend about 450 independent schools in 1996/7. **More than 40% of places are FREE.** Children as young as five years old can benefit.

APS pupils at independent schools achieve 1-3 grades higher at 'A' Level than pupils of similar ability at other schools. (Source: Research Study, London School of Economics, published July 1996.)

Last Summer over 94% of APS pupils achieved GCSE grades A-C. And 94% achieved 'A' Level Grades A-E. 51% of APS A-level entrants got A or B Grades.

Successive MORI polls show that most parents would send their children to independent schools if they could.

And, by the way, over 50% of parents who have chosen to send their children to independent schools were not educated at independent schools themselves.

We are not asking you to change your vote.

We're asking you to help us make New Labour and the Lib Dems reconsider their policies on independent schools.

Please write to us – a very short letter will be fine – saying you want your MP or candidate to think again about the points below. We will note and pass on your views.

1. *Education has been established in law as a 'Charitable* Purpose' since at least 1601. Don't let New Labour abolish Charitable Status for independent schools.

2. The Assisted Places Scheme opens the chance of independent education to far more parents. Don't let New Labour or the Lib Dems take this away.

3. Both the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the European Convention on Human Rights enshrine the right of every parent to choose the kind of education that shall be given to their children. Don't let New Labour or the Lib Dems threaten this basic freedom.

Would you like your child or grandchild to have the chance of an Assisted Place at an independent school?

For free advice telephone 0171-630 8793/4 or write to Parental Choice Matters, Friends of Independent Schools, 56 Buckingham Gate; London SW1E 6AG. And ask for our fact pack on the political threats to parental choice.

Parental Choice Matters

Major tells Blair that his troops will fight heart and soul to secure a fifth Tory victory

'Sorry Tony, the Prime Minister's job is taken'

This is an edited extract from John Major's speech to the Tory party conference yesterday.

WE'VE had a good week. It's been the week the Tory family came together — to renew the family contract with the British nation.

The well-being of our country is more important than any political party. And the well-being of the Conservative Party is more important than any member of it. So the lesson is clear. Everyone in the party should work — and if I know them, will work — heart and soul, irrespective of personal interests, to secure the re-election of a Conservative government.

☐ **ENTERPRISE:** When I became Prime Minister. I set out to make Britain a low-inflation economy. I knew what a fight it would be. But we went for it. We took the flak. No weakening. Heads down. We did what we always do when we're challenged: we came out fighting. And, as a result, we've had the longest run of low inflation this country has seen for a generation. We set out to create jobs. And we're succeeding. Unemployment is lower here than in any comparable country in Europe. Curiously enough, the Labour leader didn't mention these successes in his flight of fancy last week. Pages missing perhaps?

BOURNEMOUTH

1996

The plain truth is I'm the first Prime Minister for generations who can say "We're the most competitive economy in Europe". And I intend to be the Prime Minister who builds on that success after we've won the next general election. At that election there's a central question. It's this: who can be trusted with the future?

Labour try to persuade people it's them. "We're different," they say. "We've changed our name." "Rely on us — you know we've always been wrong in the past." Well, that's candid — if a touch eccentric. Trouble is, they're wrong in the present as well. And it simply won't do for Mr Blair to say: "Look, I'm not a socialist anymore. Now, can I be Prime Minister, please?"

Sorry, Tony. Job's taken. And anyway, it's too big a task for your first real job.

☐ **BELIEFS:** I came into politics to open doors, not shut them. They were opened for me. I was born in the war. My father was 66. My mother . . . was surprised.

We were like millions of others. Not well off, but comfortable, until financially the roof fell in. Nothing special about that. But for us, it changed our life. My mother coped — as women do. I left school at 16, because an extra £5 a week mattered. I learnt something from that experience. In the game of life, we Tories should even up the rules. Give people opportunity and choice, to open up an avenue of hope in their lives. And by "people" I don't mean "some people". I mean everyone. Opportunity for all. It's in the bloodstream of our party.

☐ **EDUCATION:** There are millions of children in our country. Every one an original: different skills, different talents, different needs. So our task is to provide a rich choice of schools and colleges, giving the best to every child and demanding the best of every child. We're improving that choice every year. And we intend to widen it further. So, I make this promise: if parents want more grant-maintained schools, they shall have them. More specialist schools — we'll provide them. More selection — they'll have it. Why should government say "no" if parents think it's right for their children?

And if parents want grammar schools in every town — so do I, and they shall have them. We grammar school boys — and girls, — believe in choice for parents. That means parents shouldn't face a choice between one bad school and another. What kind of choice is that? It's the kind of choice you get in Islington — unless you move out of the borough. We're going to change that. That's why this autumn, we'll turn today's promises into tomorrow's reality with a flagship Education Bill.

will announce their conclusions by Christmas, and I intend that the scheme will be running in schools in the coming academic year. Colin scored nearly 8,000 runs for England. Now he's going to inspire nearly 8 million boys and girls who might want to play, compete and represent their country. I want them to enjoy sport. And they'll enjoy it more if they play to win. Take it from me — winning is fun.

☐ **THE FAMILY:** More than ever before, we've given families more independence and more freedom to choose. As a result, millions have become owners of homes, savings, shares and pensions. But not enough yet. In our next 5 years, we will seek new opportunities: helping more people save and build security for retirement; helping people who need care keep more of those savings. We're aiming for the least possible tax to give the greatest possible choice. As we can afford it, we'll move to a 20p basic rate for all. That's our priority.

John Major embracing the singer Patti Boulaye during a conference walkabout with his wife Norma after his speech yesterday

We know that cutting taxes isn't government giving anything back to people. It's the government taking away less of people's own money. That's why low taxes are right. So, to encourage wealth creation for the future, we'll reduce then abolish capital gains tax.

Many people in our country build up savings long after they've enough for their own needs. One reason they do that is to pass on the fruits of their life's work to their children and grandchildren. This is a powerful, human emotion. So, over time, our next target is to remove inheritance tax. Building wealth for the many, not the few.

☐ **WELFARE:** People treasure independence. Their own independence. The State is the last option, not the first. The more independence, the less reliance. The less reliance, the more we can help those in real need. But as we accept responsibility, so much people themselves. Dependency must be about needs not culture.

I can't stand the welfare cheats. They deprive those in real need. Our task is to build a welfare system for the 21st ceentury. A system for a self-help society — not a help-yourself society. And one way of building independence is to get more people back to work. We're now doing that on a scale that's the envy of Europe — partly because we refuse to make political gestures that cost jobs. That's why I say "no" to the minimum wage and "no" to the social chapter.

But government can help the unemployed. We don't want to pay people to stay on the dole. We do want to help them get back into work. So first we're going to help those who've been out of work the longest. They're the people for whom the barriers to opportunity are highest. First we give them help to find a job and if that doesn't succeed, they'll be offered work on a community project. For many it's just the motivation they need. But it also shows up those who don't want to work. I think that's right.

☐ **HEALTH:** Our NHS is unique. In this country, when you're ill, we take your temperature. In other countries, they take your credit card. While I'm in Downing Street, that will never happen here. That doesn't mean the National Health Service shouldn't change. It must. If it were fossilised, it would decline. I saw that clearly the other day when Norma and I visited a doctor's surgery in Glossop.

> ‘In 1,000 days, Labour would ruin almost 1,000 years of British history’

The family doctor is the gateway to the Health Service. More people see their doctor than anyone else. This was a fundholding practice — part of our reforms — and, in its own small way, an example of the quiet revolution of the NHS. Waiting lists had been slashed. People no longer had to trek to the district hospital. More services were available. More money spent on patients, not paperwork. Now, this practice is one of the very best. But that excellent service could be the future everywhere.

And this autumn, Stephen Dorrell will introduce a Bill to do just that — giving family doctors greater freedom to develop local services in their surgeries — creating a new generation of cottage hospitals all over Britain.

And that's only half of it. In the autumn, Stephen will set out our ambitious plans to build the National Health Service for the 21st Century. Before the end of this year, we'll unveil new plans to help mentally ill people followed by new plans to reform social care for children, disabled people and the elderly. For over 17 years, through thick and thin, we Conservatives have found extra money for the NHS. So today, I give you a Health Service guarantee. Our manifesto will pledge that the NHS will get more — over and above inflation — year, on year, on year, on year, on year through five years of the next Conservative Government.

☐ **EUROPE:** The sharpest element of the European debate is the possibility of a single currency. We know that where Britain's national interest is at stake Britain's national voice must be heard. Europe is changing. In a few years, Europe will have 26 or 27 members. They'll be wildly different. Many of them will never match the economic performance of the larger nations. So, how do we cope with this?

We believe Europe must become more flexible and responsive. That the only realistic future is as a partnership of nations, not a United States of Europe. But some of our partners do see the future of Europe as ever closer political as well as economic integration. We don't believe this is practical. Nor, to be frank, desirable. It's not the Europe we joined and it's not a Europe we can accept.

☐ **BRITAIN:** A buccaneering spirit, gritty resolve, give and take, a conviction that everyone is entitled to the same dignity, courtesy, and esteem because of what they are, not who they are. These are some of the values we share. That's what makes us a nation. Down the centuries, they have moulded our democracy, the Union, Parliament, our voting system.

It's naive to think that radical change would be easy or risk-free. And it's revealing to look at Labour's plans. Their priority would be to gerrymander the British constitution. They're avid for more parliaments, more assemblies. Their policy is in chaos. On Scottish referenda, they change sides more often than a windscreen wiper. What a message: vote Labour — for more politicians, more bureaucrats, more taxes, more regulations, more tampering, more meddling, more authoritarianism. If this is the new gospel, give me the old religion. In less than 1,000 days, Labour would vandalise nearly 1,000 years of British history.

I didn't come from two rooms in Brixton to 10 Downing Street not to go out and fight with every fibre of my being for what I believe in. So at the election where will I be? I'll be out in the towns and streets. Where you are. I'll be the one talking to the people in the middle of the crowd. So come and join me. And I promise you — we'll win.

Leading article, page 19

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Campaign strategists see political capital in US ploy of bringing parents onto the platform

Major and Blair make the most from their family misfortunes

Tom Major-Ball: his struggles make good speech material

BY ALICE THOMSON

POLITICIANS have always wanted to tell the voters about themselves. But now they insist on filling the public in on their parents, cousins, childhood ailments and school reports.

John Major's annual and emotional recollections of his humble Brixton origins have become a conference highlight and this year Tony Blair joined in with his own verbal family album. Both have borrowed the idea from Bill Clinton and other US politicians, who have long understood that poignant childhood anecdotes humanise distant political figures and provide a warm and reassuring backdrop for policy programmes.

Former British party leaders would be horrified at the shameless way that politicians are bringing their parents onto the platform. But this year Mr Major's origins are even more important to his party. They will fight the election under an "Opportunity For All Banner". The Prime Minister's long march from Coldharbour lane to 10 Downing Street provides their most graphic illustration of this political message.

Equally Mr Blair had to prove that there was more to his personality than just a pair of demon eyes. His description to 1,200 delegates in Blackpool of the impact that his father's stroke had had upon his childhood left some in tears.

Tory aides are extremely proud of the new tactic and believe that Mr Major has taken it to an art form. When he told the conference last year about how his father was ridiculed for selling gnomes, the audience was riveted. He explained how proud he was of Mr Terry-Ball for his entrepreneurial skills even if he had once been a trapeze artist. He talks about leaving school at 16 and having failed to make the grade as a London bus driver. He even went back to his old home for a party political broadcast.

Aides on both sides have been impressed by the way that President Clinton "Oprah Winfreys" the crowds by confessing to the traumas of having an alcoholic stepfather and drug-addict brother and by the way he made his Southern mother, Virginia Kelley, into a heroine for the masses by talking about her recipes for grits and her struggles as a single parent. Polling by the Democrats shows that these stories go a long way in counteracting accusations of sleaze.

Bob Dole, the Republican presidential candidate, has gone one better with his war stories about how he got his withered arm and lost a kidney. They both make it clear that far from being bought up in Kennedyesque splendour, they struggled:

A senior Tory strategist said: "Anything that makes a person empathise with John Major is an election-winner. At first it was very difficult to make the Prime Minister do the confiding bit. He was worried about being cheesy and we had to coax the family anecodes out of him. We know it has been a real success because Tony Blair had to follow us this year. But the Americans go too far with the way they make the President mention his third cousin twice removed who is a paraplegic and deaf."

But he admitted that it works only if you have the right raw materials. "If wouldn't have worked with toffs like Alec Douglas-Hume because most of the electorate would be left cold by tales of velvet collars and nannies. William Hague could probably use his Yorkshire roots quite effectively and Michael Howard could talk about his Welsh immigrant past. But William Waldegrave would have problems with Eton."

Mr Blair's anecdote about his father was unscripted but aides were warned that he wanted to "touch a personal note".

But a veteran Labour strategist explained that Mr Blair uses it for different reasons. "Tony has extraordinary gravitas and personality but we don't want him to look too remote. This normalises him. Mr Major uses his roots to prove that he is not the middle-class grey banker that he seems, and actually had a quite extraordinary childhood for a Tory leader."

Margaret Thatcher never tried to make her conference speeches more cosy and intimate with sentimental details about her childhood in pinafore and plaits at Grantham. Nor did she dream of bringing her twins into speeches and Denis was left on the golf course, according to her speechwriters. Her mother wasn't even mentioned in her autobiography. Only her father, Alderman Roberts, was ever used to enhance the Thatcher story and that was usually in interviews. Baroness Thatcher would explain how she had learnt the values of thrift and good housekeeping while working behind the till in his shop.

The former Labour leader Neil Kinnock felt the same and hated being thought of as mawkish. He was prepared to modernise the party with roses and balloons but didn't believe his childhood in the Welsh valleys was public property.

Leo Blair and, below, Margaret Thatcher's father, Alderman Roberts

One successful week in politics will not suffice

RIDDELL ON POLITICS

The Tories have decided to play the class card — Honest John the ordinary grammar school lad versus Phoney Tony the privileged public school boy. This contrast was strikingly developed in John Major's unusually personal and at times almost chip-on-shoulder speech. But he should be careful about attacking people from privileged backgrounds: almost three fifths of his Cabinet sitting behind him yesterday went to public schools, including three Old Etonians.

This approach is based, like so much else in politics nowadays, on focus groups, discussions between a dozen or more target voters to find out which themes and images strike a chord. The Tories claim that people in their groups repeatedly say that Tony Blair is "smarmy", while Mr Major is seen as down-to-earth, an ordinary man who has been successful through his own efforts. For what it is worth, Labour says its groups regard Mr Blair as a strong leader and decisive and Mr Major as weak and directionless.

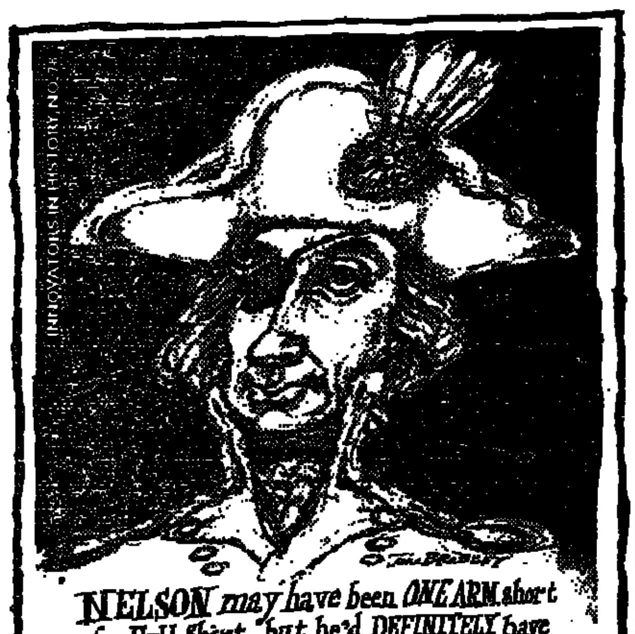
The Tories believe that contrasting Mr Major and Mr Blair helps to dramatise the parties' different appeals. Mr Major's personal odyssey from Coldharbour Lane to Downing Street — highlighted in his first conference as leader in 1991 and in a party election broadcast in 1992 — is seen as epitomising what the party means by the Bournemouth conference slogan of *Opportunity for all*. It provides a focus for Tory policies on encouraging social mobility through reform of welfare and spreading educational choice.

Throughout the week, Tory strategists — the influential duo of David Willetts and Danny Finkelstein — developed the quasi-populist theme of the Tories as the party of the "hard-working classes" (carefully in the plural to make it a cross-class appeal) dealing with people's direct concerns, "a good education, a rewarding job, security". By contrast, Labour was presented as the party of the Islington "chattering classes" concerned with esoteric issues like constitutional reform. Mr Blair is vulnerable here. His appeal is greater among the middle-aged and middle-class from the South East than with traditional Labour voters.

The key test is whether this marketing strategy is backed up by policy substance. During the week ministers outlined fresh proposals on., for example, welfare-to-work and educational choice. But Mr Major himself was content with a "trust the manager to finish the job" appeal. He presented himself as the experienced leader, in direct contrast to the inexperienced Mr Blair, who knows how to handle tricky problems, the "ceaseless tasks" of government. He spoke movingly about Northern Ireland. There was no real hint of how a Tory fifth term would be different and not just more of the same. This was typified by the pledge on health spending. There is a case for a trust "the devil you know" appeal, as Mr Major conceded in an interview last Sunday. It suits his personality, but I doubt if it will be enough.

Mr Major's relaxed performance yesterday was in tune with the week. It was the Tories' most successful, and least publicly fractious, conference since the last election. The party is at ease with itself for the time being. The Cabinet sceptics do not want to be seen to rock the boat and appear disloyal before the election. The truce on Europe may not, and probably will not, last that long, so deeply felt are the arguments on a single currency. That will determine whether the Bournemouth conference has a lasting impact on the public. The cheerfulness of ministers at the end of the week was partly relief and partly whistling in the wind. Few really believe that one harmonious week will change the Tories' election prospects. It is a necessary but far from sufficient condition for remaining in office.

PETER RIDDELL



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Briton who set up Philippine sex tours jailed for 16 years

By Abby Tan in Manila, Michael Horsnell and Dominic Kennedy

A BRITISH travel agent has been sentenced to the maximum 16 years for promoting child prostitution in the Philippines after being trapped by an undercover campaigner from Christian Aid.

Michael Clarke, 50, advertised £600 sex holidays in a brochure promising that clients would find an "Adult Disney World". He is the third foreigner to be convicted under a tough new law aimed at protecting the nation's 60,000 child prostitutes.

Clarke, from Eastbourne, was clandestinely filmed offering to arrange child prostitutes, which he called "chickens", for Martin Cottingham, who was posing as a client but works for Christian Aid in London.

Clarke was later tracked down in the Philippines by Father Shay Cullen, an Irish priest who devotes his life to saving children and women from the islands' thriving sex industry. As he was sentenced, Clarke shouted: "I'm completely innocent. I have suffered enough," before being taken back to the provincial prison where he gives other inmates 30p haircuts in order to buy cigarettes. He said that he would file a "strong appeal".

Clarke's sex tour itinerary included "a short Jeep ride into 'Sin City' to a very special establishment, the 'OK Corral', where dozens of headstrong young fillies are tethered!" Clients were invited to "choose your mount".

A divorcé with an adult daughter, he told potential customers he could arrange sex with girls as young as 12. "You have to give her a nice time and treat her to, say, hamburger and chips," he said, "something she's probably never eaten before. Then she'll do what you ask her for."

Olongapo, the former site of an American naval base, is infamous for bars and nightclubs that once catered to US servicemen, as is Clarke's other sex holiday destination, Angeles City. Father Cullen, who runs a refuge organisation, Preda, used his contacts to trace Clarke to a rented beach bungalow a year ago. The priest realised a westerner was living there because the shirts on the washing line were bigger than a Filipino's. He called the police after finding a handmade poster outside the building with a drawing of a naked boy tied to a spit over a fire and the promise: "Outrageous happenings on the beach. Dr Crazy will bring you on a tour."

Father Cullen said: "He has called me the Devil who was trying to persecute him. He deserves that sentence for promoting kids and being insulting to Filipinos. It is a terrible exploitation of the poor."

Clarke, an ex-market trader, also ran a scam aimed at the yachting community on the South Coast of England, persuading victims to send a £55 insurance fee to appear in a non-existent epic sailing movie being filmed in Thailand. He operated the fraud from a telephone in a girlie bar.

Another Briton, Douglas Slade, a former seaman, is awaiting trial on child-molesting charges.

Father Shay Cullen, who tracked down Clarke

ROMEO RANOCO/REUTER

Michael Clarke is driven away in handcuffs after being sentenced to 16 years jail

Moroccans unlikely to free pregnant British teenager

By Joanna Bale

A PREGNANT British teenager jailed for drug smuggling in Morocco after her father tipped-off police is unlikely to be granted her request to be released before the birth.

Sally Griffiths, 18, discovered she was pregnant two months into her five-year sentence and asked for her freedom in an appeal court on Thursday so that her baby, expected in April, would not be born in prison. Her solicitor, Stephen Jakobi, of Fair Trials Abroad, said yesterday: "We are confident that the sentence will be reduced, but she is likely to give birth while in prison." The result of the appeal will be known on Thursday.

A Moroccan Embassy spokesman said yesterday that Miss Griffiths would be allowed to choose between keeping the baby or handing it over to relatives. He said: "She will be able to give birth in a hospital and keep the baby with her in prison until it reaches the age of two, which is the age when Moroccan women traditionally stop breastfeeding.

"After that it will be given to the next of kin to look after because it is not fair on an older child to bring it up in prison. She can also hand the child to her next of kin straight after the birth if she wants to."

Miss Griffiths, who became pregnant just before her arrest in July, was sentenced with her friend Claire Martin in August for trying to smuggle five kilograms of cannabis, worth £23,000, from Morocco to Amsterdam. The women, flatmates from Colchester, Essex, are sharing a 10ft by 20ft cell with five other female convicts at the Oukacha prison in Casablanca.

The women were caught after a tip-off from Miss Griffiths's father, Nigel. He had hoped that a local policeman would give her a verbal warning and said he was outraged at her sentence.

A spokeswoman for Prisoners Abroad said yesterday: "Moroccan women have their families nearby to bring in fresh food every day and to look after their welfare, but Miss Griffiths does not have this so there are bound to be concerns for the baby."

Griffiths: five years for smuggling drugs

Tourist killed in crash on Majorca

By Adrian Lee

A BRITISH holidaymaker died and 45 others were injured when their coach overturned after a head-on collision with a car in Majorca.

The dead woman was named by Spanish police as Dawn Parker, 30, a supermarket worker who was on her first holiday abroad. Her son James, 11, had to be cut from the wreckage and suffered serious leg injuries. The Spanish driver of the car, which apparently skidded into the path of the coach, causing it to veer off the road, was also killed.

Last night ten people were still being treated at four hospitals. The accident happened close to Campos, about 12 miles from the capital Palma, as the coach was returning the tourists to their hotels and apartments at 1am after an excursion. Some 56 British tourists, a British holiday company representative and a Spanish driver were on board. All the tourists had booked their holidays through Sunworld of Bromley, southeast London. Their ages ranged from five to 93. A company spokeswoman said the holidaymakers were from various parts of Britain. "My understanding is that the majority of those injured suffered cuts and bruises," she said.

All were on one or two-week package holidays and had spent the evening at a traditional "fiesta meal and cabaret" in Son Amar. Many were staying at the Club Aguamar in Calas de Mallorca on the east coast of the island. Others were at the Club Cala Barca and the Malaga One.

Dawn Parker was from Weston-super-Mare, Somerset, and worked in a supermarket, according to reports yesterday. Her husband Michael, 30, and three other sons, aged five, six and nine, were also all injured.

☐ The emergency number for friends and relatives of those involved is 0113-236 1777.

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BUSINESS EDITOR Lindsay Cook

SATURDAY OCTOBER 12 1996

Clarke pledge propels pound to 20-month high

By Janet Bush
Economics Correspondent

THE POUND was the star performer on foreign exchanges yesterday, surging to a 20-month high against the German mark as the markets reacted with relief to the Chancellor's pledge that he will not throw away sensible economic policies to win votes.

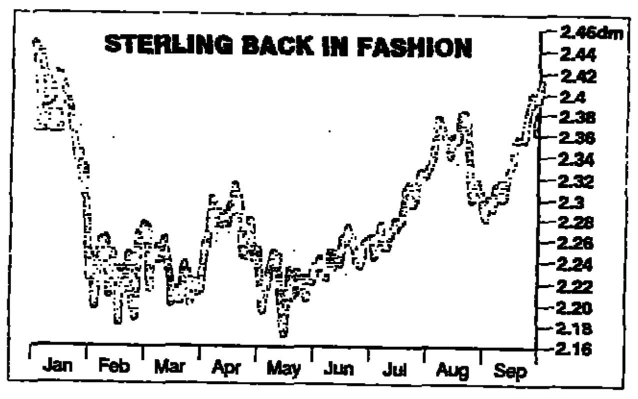
The pound jumped to DM2.4124 from DM2.3955, its highest level since February 1995. In the past two months alone sterling has appreciated by nearly 6 per cent against the German currency. Against a basket of currencies, the pound closed at 87.8. This was its best level for 20 months and nearly 5 per cent higher than two months ago.

The stock market joined in the optimism and was given a further boost by a buoyant Wall Street. The FT-SE 100 index closed 33.4 points higher, at 4,028.1.

Kenneth Clarke's warning to the Conservative Party conference in Bournemouth on Thursday, that he would not cut taxes unless they were sustainable, removed one element of political risk from investing in the pound. A layer of risk had already been taken out of sterling the previous week when Gordon Brown, Shadow Chancellor, promised fiscal and monetary discipline.

Tony Norfield, currency strategist at ABN Amro, said that the apparent commitment to sensible economic policies by both main election contenders is the main reason for the latest leg of sterling's rally rather than euphoria about a successful Tory conference.

"The real issue is that Ken Clarke has said that he will not indulge in a last-ditch attempt at crazy policies in order to win votes," Mr Norfield said.



The removal of most of the obvious political risks after the conference season has added to other factors that have fuelled sterling's rise. As recently as Thursday, for example, the pound rallied after a small but disappointing rise in underlying inflation to 2.9 per cent in September, from 2.8 per cent in August. This appeared finally to rule out another cut in base rates.

Other factors helping the pound include the strength of the dollar and the developing situation in Europe. As it has appeared more likely that a single currency will go ahead but possibly on fudged economic criteria, so the perception has grown that the euro, when established, may be a soft rather than the hard currency always envisaged.

This has undermined the mark and helped those currencies less likely to join a first wave of entrants into the euro, but which are still striving to meet the Maastricht economic convergence criteria — positive in the view of investors.

Unravelling the "euro effect" on currencies is difficult but, as economists at Swiss Bank commented yesterday: "When it all gets confusing, you buy sterling." However, as the European policies of the Conservative and Labour parties develop, the pound has the advantage of being backed by an economy that has shown healthy, sustained growth without inflationary pressures, while many European economies are just emerging weakly from recession.

Runaway form, page 24

NatWest package branded immoral

By Robert Miller

BANK staff yesterday condemned the "golden handcuffs" that will make millionaires of 120 key employees of J O Hambro Magan, the corporate finance boutique that is being taken over by NatWest Group.

As *The Times* reported yesterday, the NatWest Markets purchase of Hambro Magan means that up to 120 key staff of the newly enlarged group will earn generous remuneration packages worth between £1 million and £2 million for the top performers. The unions said that the NatWest deal signalled an unwelcome return to 1980s-style City salaries and were inappropriate when tens of thousands of jobs were being shed in the banking sector.

Barclays also confirmed that Bill Harrison, who recently joined from Robert Fleming as the chief executive of BZW, would earn a one-off £4.2 million in his first two years.

Dai Davies, assistant general secretary of the NatWest Staff Association, said: "When NatWest is planning to shed thousands more jobs through redundancies and branch closures, to be paying such huge sums to staff to stay in their jobs is quite frankly immoral."

Ed Sweeney, general secretary of Bifu, the banking, insurance and finance union, said the NatWest Markets deal was an insult. He added that most staff "would welcome a guarantee of job security for the next three years, let alone have money stuffed down their throats to stay".

Iain MacLean of Unifi, the Barclays staff union, said: "To be shelling out such obscene sums is hardly conducive to building staff confidence. It's a kick in the teeth."

NatWest Markets said the matter was confidential.

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Bejam founder set to profit as Majestic floats

By Paul Durman

JOHN APTHORP, founder of the Bejam frozen food chain, will make his second stock market fortune next month, when Majestic Wine floats on the Alternative Investment Market (AIM) for an estimated £20 million.

This places a £14 million value on the 70 per cent stake in Majestic that Mr Apthorp and his family will retain after selling nearly £1.5 million of shares in the flotation. The family made more than £60 million when Bejam was taken over by Iceland in 1989.

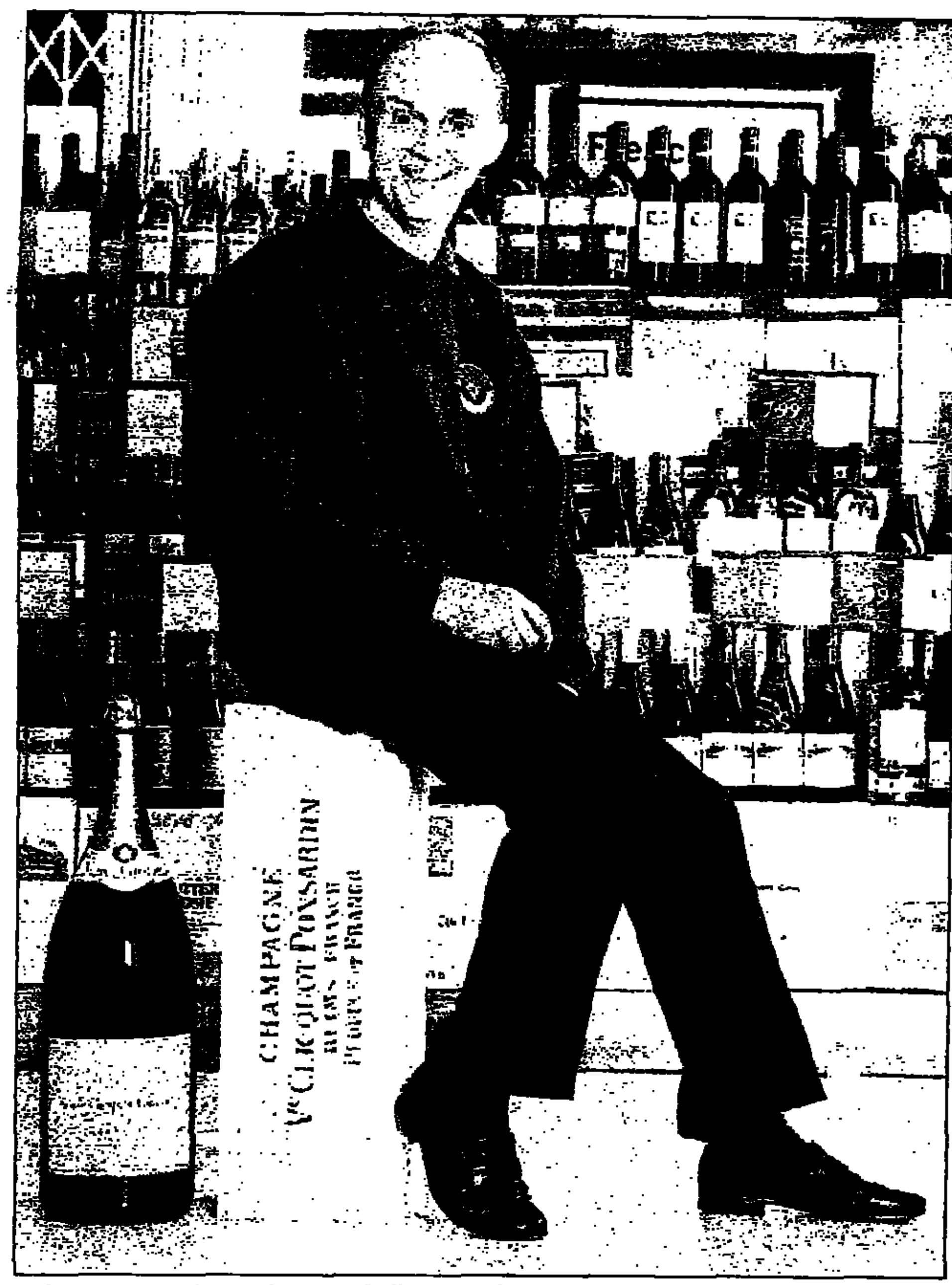
Majestic's 59 warehouses only sell wine by the case. Its customers, many of them wine enthusiasts, spend an average £84 a purchase. Four out of every five of Majestic's staff are graduates, who are encouraged to develop their knowledge of wine so that they are able to advise customers on potential purchases. The warehouses are open seven days a week and hold daily wine tastings.

The company's four executive directors are all ex-Bejam. Mr Apthorp, 61, works part-time as chairman. The chief executive is Tim How, 45, who was previously Bejam's managing director. Tony Mason, trading director, was the founder of Wizard Wine, the firm that the Apthorp team bought out of Bejam after the Iceland takeover.

Majestic, which sells 150,000 bottles of wine every week, will receive about £2 million from the flotation, although a total of about £4 million of shares will be placed with investors. About 40 staff will receive about £500,000 of shares through the exercise of options.

The money will help Majestic to accelerate its expansion. Mr How believes it should be possible to double the size of the chain and is seeking new sites in 70 locations.

Over the past three years, sales have grown from £30.1 million to £40.1 million, while operating profits have risen from £449,000 to £1.2 million. However, the most recent pretax results have been re-stated at £700,000, reflecting a £550,000 writedown of four properties from their late 1980s valuations.



Crate expectations: Tim How believes Majestic has the potential to double in size

BUSINESS TODAY

STOCK MARKET INDICES

FTSE 100	4028.1	(+33.4)
Yield	3.88%	
FTSE All share	1976.98	(+13.09)
Nikkei	20968.16	(+97.33)
New York:		
Dow Jones	5963.04	(+41.37)*
S&P Composite	699.88	(+5.27)*

US RATE

Federal Funds	5⅛%*	(5¼%)
Long Bond	98²⁷⁄₃₂*	(98¹⁷⁄₃₂)
Yield	6.84%*	(6.88%)

LONDON MONEY

3-mth Interbank	5²⁹⁄₃₂%	(5²⁹⁄₃₂%)
Liffe long gilt future (Dec)	110⁹⁄₁₆	(110¹¹⁄₃₂)

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New York:		
$	1.5749*	(1.5665)
London:		
$	1.5753	(1.5663)
DM	2.4126	(2.3980)
FFr	8.1637	(8.0898)
SFr	1.9770	(1.9610)
Yen	175.88	(174.29)
£ Index	87.8	(87.2)

DOLLAR

London:		
DM	1.5312*	(1.5282)
FFr	5.1810*	(5.1680)
SFr	1.2545*	(1.2495)
Yen	111.85*	(111.27)
$ Index	97.4	(97.3)

Tokyo close Yen 111.37

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent 15-day (Dec)	$23.50	($23.20)

GOLD

London close	$381.05	($381.85)

* denotes midday trading price

Wickes investors still in the dark

By Sarah Cunningham

WICKES, the DIY retailer, has again delayed the letter to long-suffering shareholders that will explain how it came to overstate profits by about £50 million over the past three years. The delay is believed to have been caused by a failure of the board and its advisers to agree who to blame for the affair.

The company promised to inform shareholders of the findings of an investigation by Price Waterhouse, the accountant, and Linklaters & Paines, the solicitor, by September 30. Then it indicated that the letters would be sent out by the end of this week. The letter is not now expected until the middle of next week because directors and their advisers have failed to agree on how to describe the roles of various peoplein the affair.

Henry Sweetbaum, former chairman and chief executive of Wickes, resigned the day after its shares were suspended on June 26 after the discovery of accounting irregularities. Since then, Les Rosenthal, group trading director, and Chris Miles, commercial director, have also resigned. Wickes has yet to decide whether to pursue legal action against former employees or others who are implicated.

The shares are unlikely to be readmitted for trading until December. The writedowns to take into account the overstatement of profits mean that the company is expected to attempt a £30 million rights issue and to sell some overseas operations. A buyer, possibly B&Q or RMC, is expected to emerge in the long term.

Man United tackles takeover talk

By Keith Rodgers

SHARES in Manchester United soared 61p to 513½p yesterday amid mounting speculation of a possible takeover bid.

At the closing price, the company is valued at more than £317 million, after a report in *The Times* yesterday that Martin Edwards, chief executive of the company and the largest shareholder with 17 per cent, expected offers and would be prepared to do business at the right price. Manchester United has already rejected one approach this year by VCI, Michael Grade's video distribution company. Its 480p a share offer valued the company at about £300 million.

Whitbread, tipped as a potential bidder, yesterday said it was not interested in tabling an offer. Sources close to Granada and United News & Media indicated that they were also not in the running. However, analysts say the club's success in building its leisure business and the potential revenues from TV, particularly pay-per-view, make the group an increasingly attractive target. It is thought that a bidder would have to pay upwards of £400 million to buy the company.

The shares rose in spite of a statement from Manchester United that it was not aware of any proposals. Last night Mr Edwards said: "We have never said that we are interested in any way in selling Manchester United. We are successful, so there will be interest, but it it is not something we would ever encourage."

The big match, page 48

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Press might care to take its regulatory cue from the City

EXECUTIVE VOICE

Christopher Sharples

I couldn't resist. The invitation to write this piece came on the day that Lord Wakeham fired yet another warning shot across the bows of the fourth estate about the need to act in accordance with the spirit of self-regulation. His letter to *The Times* ended with the somewhat pious hope that they "would rise to the challenge".

The irony was inescapable, especially to me, having until fairly recently been a City regulator who was at the receiving end for many years of some of the media's general scepticism about self-regulation. Their argument was usually along the lines of the Financial Services Act system of regulation being self-interested, a soft touch, generally about "chaps letting each other off over lunch", usually coupled with the suggestion that what we really needed was a US-style Securities and Exchange Commission with real teeth to sort out the perceived problems.

So it doesn't seem unreasonable to take this opportunity to make the observation about what appears to be the complete absence of any real teeth in the self-regulatory regime for the press. Certainly in contrast to what practitioners in the financial services industry have to to put up with these days.

When was the last time you heard about a journalist who had a licence to pursue his or her profession revoked, and therefore being forced to switch careers, or being fined, or being told to take examinations, or being subject to an ongoing "fit and proper test"? The City regulators, on the other hand, do all of these things on a regular basis — to both firms and individuals.

Interestingly, Lord Wakeham's organisation only acts when it receives a complaint. Hence its name. On that basis City regulators such as the SFA and IMRO could let most of their staff go as they wouldn't have much to do at all.

Another issue worth airing is the "good news is no news" problem. Journalists would sometimes ask why we, at the SFA, had not issued a disciplinary notice for a while. The suggestion being that we were not doing our job properly. It was never considered very helpful for us to point out that, for the most part, firms were complying with the rules and complaints from their customers were few and far between.

In point of fact, good news stories about the City are not hard to come by. There is no shortage of overseas firms wanting to set up shop here and so one of its greatest strengths, namely its critical mass of banks and other financial organisations, remains unchallenged. Equally important is the way in which some of its key institutions are adept at reinventing themselves in the face of rapid change.

One such example is the Stock Exchange, which for a while was really on the ropes with hardly a friend in sight. *To avoid allegations of sleaze I had better declare an interest as a vendor of their real-time prices, consequently paying them large sums of money.* Now, however, they really seem to be getting their act together.

Under the more stable and measured influence of its current senior executives it has achieved the successful completion of a major software project known as Sequence (on time and within budget, as Christine Dann is fond of saying): it has been trading record volumes; it has enabled 200 smaller companies to raise capital on the AIM market; it has attracted more overseas companies than New York, and it has embraced new technology generally as an agent for change in the creation of a new order-driven market.

SEAQ International may always have been just a transitional arrangement while other European countries caught up in terms of their domestic markets, but a more promising future beckons in terms of the listing in London of overseas companies. Apparently there are nearly 1,000 companies in China already who are in a position, should they choose to do so, to list in London under the new agreements signed last week. The Exchange is busily marketing itself to several other countries such as Vietnam, India and Indonesia.

Of course, it certainly helps to have a regulatory regime that is pragmatic, involves practitioners, has a wide range of disciplinary sanctions as well as the statutory backing and, therefore, the teeth necessary to deal with those who break not only the rules but also the spirit of self-regulation, which is what it's all about.

Perhaps Lord Wakeham's Press Complaints Commission could take a leaf . . .

☐ *Christopher Sharples is chairman of ICV and past chairman of the Securities and Futures Authority*

Dow sustains runaway form

FROM RICHARD THOMSON IN NEW YORK

THE *Dow Jones* industrial average celebrated the longest bull phase in its history yesterday with a rise of more than 40 points. It has broken all previous records for a continuous rise in share prices during which there has not been a 10 per cent correction.

Canny investors who put their money into the market on October 11, 1990 after the 21 per cent market fall associated with the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, have seen the Dow climb from 2,365 to above 6,000, an increase of 153 per cent. The S&P 500, a wider measure of share prices has soared from 295 to 700, while the Nasdaq index, which measures small company stocks, has risen 270 per cent.

Some analysts are worried that a bull market that breaks all historical precedents cannot have much further to run. Lazlo Birinyi of Birinyin Associates, a Connecticut broking firm, said: "My view is that the market can't keep rising like this, but I have to admit that so far I've been wrong."

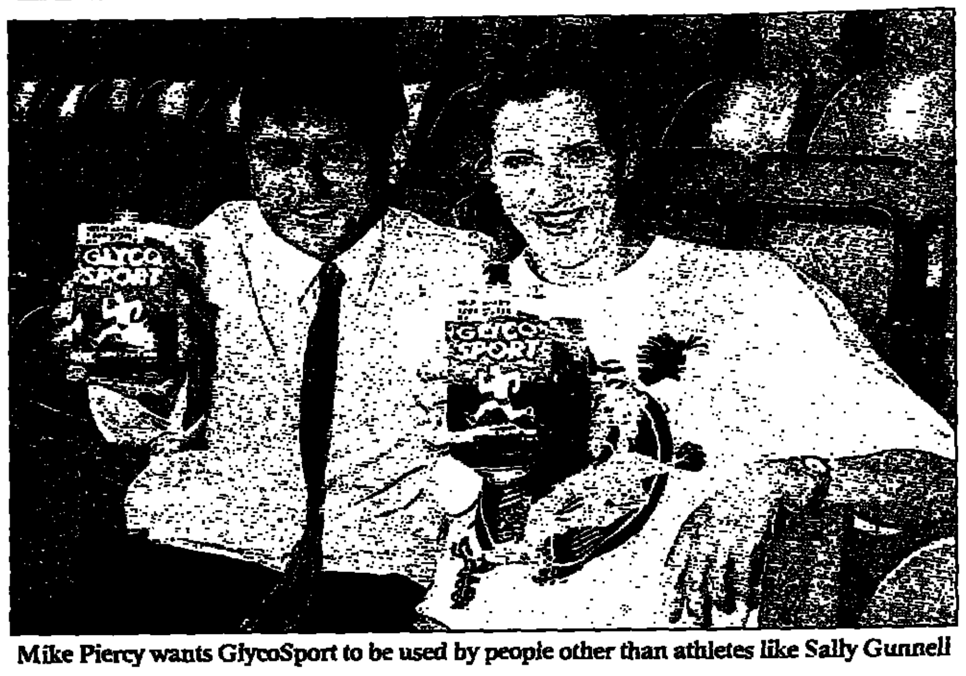
The stock market has benefited from a benign combination of low interest and inflation rates, solid economic growth and a frenzy of equity investment by the so-called "baby boom" generation. Money flowing into mutual [US unit trust] funds has averaged nearly $20 billion a month for the past year. "It is different from any previous bull market," said Joseph Battipaglia, equity strategist at Gruntal & Co.

In spite of a summer setback when many analysts believed the market was entering a long-term decline, share prices recovered and then raced above 6,000. Few Wall Street experts had expected the Dow to reach that level this year.

Ominously, however, some of the excesses that emerged before the 1987 crash are showing up again. Salaries on Wall Street have broken all records this year, with multi-million-dollar bonuses for high-flying investment bankers, while companies have been poaching each other's staff with massive pay offers. Deutsche Bank in particular has raised eyebrows with huge salaries and bonuses promised to new employees in New York and London as it tries to build a global investment banking business.

As in the 1980s, Manhattan is full of young brokers and bankers riding in limousines and puffing big cigars. Property prices are soaring and heroin appears to have replaced cocaine as the drug of the "Bonus Brigade".

Tempus, page 26



Mike Piercy wants GlycoSport to be used by people other than athletes like Sally Gunnell

GlycoSport joins Ofex

GLYCOSPORT, the high-energy sport drink, is coming to the Ofex market in an offer for subscription which capitalises GlycoSport Soft Drinks, its producer, at £1.5 million (Fraser Nelson writes).

The drink offers calorie release without sugar or glucose additives. Since 1993, it has been used by athletes — including Sally Gunnell, the Olympic hurdler — but its medicinal taste has prohibited marketing to the general public.

Mike Piercy, who founded Universal Wines and Spirits, set up GSD in 1994 to make the drink more palatable. Since June, it has been available through Boots stores in a lemon flavour.

GSD, which is sponsoring tomorrow's Manchester Marathon, is raising £700,000 from the issue, as St James's Partners places seven million of its shares at 10p each.

TNT share trader eludes authorities

FROM RACHEL BRIDGE IN SYDNEY

THE mystery surrounding the true identity of Mark Booth, the alleged insider trader, intensified yesterday as the Australian authorities revealed that he had written to his broker to explain his actions, but had not revealed his whereabouts.

The man, thought to be British, who made a A$2 million profit from options dealing ahead of Dutch group KPN's surprise A$2 billion bid for TNT, the Australian transport group, last week, is understood to have contacted Ord Minett, the Sydney stockbroker, by mail on two occasions since the controversial transaction.

Rosie Webb, a lawyer with the Australian Securities Commission, said yesterday that the commission did not know who the man was. "We really haven't got a lead on whether that is his real name or not. We are following various avenues to try and find out who he is," she said.

The Federal Court agreed this week to a continued freeze of the profits from the transaction while the commission continues its investigations.

TNT shares were trading at about A$1.56 each when Mr Booth bought call options over five million TNT shares at an exercise price of A$2. They are now trading at A$2.40, just below KPN's offer price of A$2.45 a share.

Mr Booth is understood to have ordered the options in TNT over the telephone and paid with untraceable bank cheques, while the telephone numbers linked to him have led only to an answer machine.

Chris Gorman, managing director of Ord Minnett, said Mr Booth's letter gave "an absolute denial of any insider knowledge" and set out his commercial reasons for buying the TNT call options when he did. Mr Gorman said he did not know whether Booth was in Australia at all, admitting: "I don't know where he is at this point in time. If I knew where he was, the ASC woulds know where he was."

Ferry wars claim jobs as Stena service ends

BY JONATHAN PRYNN, TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT

THE cross-Channel price war claimed another victim yesterday, when Stena announced that it is to pull out of its heavily loss-making Southampton to Cherbourg route at a cost of 169 jobs.

The service, which is losing a "seven-figure sum" annually, has been operating since 1991. It was killed off by cut-price deals on the short Dover to Calais crossing and the opening of the Channel Tunnel, the company said.

Passenger volumes on the route have fallen steadily since the peak of 1994, when the service was used by 581,000 people. This fell to 549,000 last year and to 400,000 in the first nine months of this year, a fall of 15 per cent on the same period in 1995.

A spokesman for Stena said that passenger numbers had failed to respond to a "very aggressive" pricing and marketing campaign this year, which had seen brochure prices cut by 20 per cent in the peak season.

The service, which offered one round trip a day in winter and two in summer, will cease in December.

However, the spokesman said it would maintain a presence in the "Western Channel" through a new fast ferry service between Portsmouth and Cherbourg starting next year.

TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.08	1.92
Austria Sch	17.87	16.97
Belgium Fr	52.40	48.10
Canada $	2.229	2.069
Cyprus Cyp£	0.764	0.709
Denmark Kr	9.76	8.98
Finland Mkk	7.76	7.10
France Fr	8.51	7.89
Germany Dm	2.55	2.34
Greece Dr	392	367
Hong Kong $	12.77	11.77
Iceland	115	95
Ireland Pt	1.03	0.95
Israel Shk	5.38	4.74
Italy Lira	2496	2341
Japan Yen	188.80	172.80
Malta	0.609	0.564
Netherlds Gld	2.842	2.612
New Zealand $	2.42	2.20
Norway Kr	10.75	9.95
Portugal Esc	264.00	235.50
S Africa Rd	7.72	6.92
Spain Pta	208.50	195.50
Sweden Kr	10.98	10.18
Switzerland Fr	2.09	1.91
Turkey Lira	149400	141400
USA $	1.667	1.537

Rates for small denomination notes as supplied by Barclays Bank. Different rates for traveller's cheques. Rates at close of trading yesterday.

Alpha profits down

Alpha Airports Group, the retailer and flight services group, suffered an 11 per cent fall in pre-tax profits to £10 million in the six months to July 31. The results were in line with expectations, after a profit warning in August, but Alpha shares fell 3p to 107½p.

Its catering division, which serves about 33 million meals a year, saw operating profits fall by £2.5 million to £4.3 million, largely because of increased losses in America. The interim dividend is maintained at 1.75p.

Tempus, page 26

Insurance rise

Car insurance premiums have risen significantly for the first time in more than two years, according to the AA. On average, drivers are paying £20.24 more for comprehensive cover now than three months ago, and £14.95 more for third-party insurance.

The AA's British Insurance Premium Index, which covers the three months to October, reveals that buildings insurance costs have increased by £1.46 in the last three months although contents cover costs 12p less.

Tullow grows

Tullow Oil, the Dublin oil and gas producer and explorer, plans to expand its operations over the next year, the company said yesterday. The company reported a 43 per cent increase in interim pre-tax profits to Ir£1.2 million. Earnings per share jumped 36 per cent to Ir0.64p, compared with Ir0.47p. Again there is no dividend.

New base

Airtours, the tour operator, is establishing a subsidiary in California to expand its activities in North America. Sunquest Holdings, to be based in Los Angeles from April 1997, will offer holidays from California to Hawaii, Mexico and the Caribbean. Airtours shares rose 13p to to 606½p.

Cliveden buys

Cliveden, the luxury hotels and leisure club company, has acquired the Royal Crescent Hotel in Bath from Queens Moat Houses for £8.5 million. The company plans to refurbish the hotel over the next year and develop a club facility in the same style as its showpiece hotel at Cliveden, Berkshire.

Prices fall

Output prices for manufacturing industries in the Irish Republic fell 0.2 per cent in September from the previous month, the Central Statistics Office said yesterday. On a year-on-year basis, prices fell 0.7 per cent.

THE SUNDAY TIMES

Virgin laid bare

"Richard Branson remains one of most written about but least understood businessmen in the world. The Sunday Times has for the first time assembled a detailed picture of his Virgin empire . . ."

Business Focus — The Sunday Times, tomorrow

OUR £20 MILLION RE-INVESTMENT ON MERSEYSIDE IS DOWN TO THE QUALITY OF THE LOCAL WORKFORCE

Attracting major companies is one way to test the mettle of an area.

But the ultimate compliment is when a company is so impressed it increases its investment there.

So thanks, Kodak, for the compliment.

After nearly 50 years on Merseyside, the American giant decided to re-invest and expand here, making it their biggest chemicals operation in Europe. They have found the operation to have one of the most productive workforces of any of their plants in Europe, and the level of job applicants is always of the highest quality.

"There is a sense of energy and 'can-do' mentality in our workforce which mirrors our own philosophy."

So what's so special about Merseyside? The grants at local, national and European Union levels? Not one but three Training and Enterprise Councils? The number of good sites? One of the most sophisticated telecommunications systems in Europe? The co-operation between new and existing investors to pool their knowledge of the region?

Well, yes, yes, yes, yes and yes.

But there's something on Merseyside only Merseyside can ever have - one and a half million Merseysiders.

As existing investors like Barclays, Ford, QVC and General Motors have discovered, the people here have adaptability and enthusiasm running in their veins.

They've taken to training and retraining with a vengeance. Contributing to productivity levels that are 12% higher than the national average.

"New working practices have been implemented quickly and efficiently."

And the workforce at Kodak? They've an enviable reputation for meeting quality standards and adopting new management systems.

For instance, a new business development of supplying photographic materials to hundreds of mini-labs throughout the UK has already achieved a Perfect Delivery level of 98% OTIFNE (On Time, In Full, No Errors) when 90% is regarded as excellent. They are not however resting on their laurels as they strive for a perfect 100%.

That's why Kodak has poured an extra £20 million into their Kirkby plant in the last 18 months.

So whether you're in the photographic business or not, one thing's for certain.

Developing companies need look no further than Merseyside.

IVON CARNALL
FACTORY MANAGER, KODAK

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A WORKING WEEK FOR: WALTER HASSELKUS

German spins wheel of fortune at Rover

Oliver August follows the tracks of the man charged with rediscovering what it was that once made British motors work so well

TONY WHITE

Walter Hasselkus has swapped a fleet of BMWs with Munich licence plates for a Range Rover on business trips and a Rover 800, used by his wife

WALTER HASSELKUS is not a troubleshooter with a carving knife concealed behind his back. Nor is he the stereotypical wooden and humourless German. Rover head office can undo the seat belts. The new chief executive will not try to turn Rover into a BMW clone.

Herr Hasselkus is more at home at the RAC Club on Pall Mall in London than in a beer tent at the Munich Oktoberfest, and had been BMW's head of European sales. Having moved to Britain six weeks ago, he would now like to apply for RAC membership.

His sense of humour is suitably dry, so much so that it is even acceptable to the bowler hats who walk the marble halls. Herr Hasselkus, 54, jokes about being too busy to boost the German birthrate, maybe the only way of pushing up industrial output. When asked about the European social chapter, he disarmingly replies that he too would like to have a shorter working week "but it's just not possible".

His day starts at 7.30 and, as befits the head of a motor company, it starts in a car, in which he studies documents on the way to his office.

Herr Hasselkus has swapped a fleet of BMWs with Munich licence plates for a Range Rover on business trips and a Rover 800 for his wife. So if Rover's production standards were to slip, the new boss from the Bavarian head office would notice. "I don't have a problem with reading in a Rover," he said approvingly.

Herr Hasselkus trained as a lawyer, but his love affair with the motor car goes back half a century. "I love cars and I am interested in motor racing. I'm not really a racing driver myself but I regularly go to grand prix or touring car races."

At the weekend, when the chauffeur is off-duty, he drives an Austin Healey '59. "I always liked British sports cars. When I was 12 I knew someone who had an Austin Healey. He gave me a lift, I think only once, but the car stuck in my mind ever since. And when I could afford it I bought one, though I am not a collector of classic cars."

The Hasselkus home is in Oxfordshire, though the chief executive has so far spent little time there, other than for sleeping, his days filled with briefings and budget negotiations.

Taking over at the helm of a foreign flagship company would have tested any German's work ethic to the limit. Herr Hasselkus is not only new to Rover and almost new to Britain (he was on a short BMW secondment to London in the early 1980s), he is also a relative newcomer to the car industry. Until last year, he was overseeing BMW's motorcycle business and is still a member of the main BMW board. While this means that he has to spend a few days in Munich every month, it also gives Rover a voice at the top table, which it was lacking under John Towers, from whom Herr Hasselkus took over.

With his self-confessed ignorance of the UK car sector, it came as quite a surprise when he was asked to deliver a speech on the centenary of the British car industry at the 1996 Motor Show next Tuesday. His experience of the industry comprises exactly six weeks of hectic meetings, interspersed with visits to Rover plants around the country. The travelling, at least, will have made sure that he has spent some time in a British car, not something many German car builders can say.

His day at the Motor Show will start at the Rover stand at 8.15. He then has ten hours to stroll around and learn something about his British competitors before giving his "state of the nation" address during the gala dinner.

After dinner, he will return to his wife and their 17-year-old son, who attends an international school in Abingdon. They moved into the new family home last week, leaving behind two daughters who are studying at German universities. Even at the weekend, however, the family does not necessarily see very much of Herr Hasselkus, who is a keen sportsman.

> ❛ It took a foreigner to tell Rover that the Mini is a cult car ❜

He plays tennis, but "not very well". Apparently he wielded a racket so frequently during his student days that he was considered among peers to be rather better suited to the physical than the mental. He is also an enthusiastic skier, though again, he emphasises, "not a very good one".

Herr Hasselkus is a model of English self-deprecation. Asked about modern car technology, he smiles, shrugs and says: "Don't ask me. I hardly understand it myself."

But behind the smooth veneer is a man who likes straight-talking. Rover executives will doubtless learn to appreciate their new boss's honesty, which borders on bluntness. Though polite and almost coy, he comes to the point before you can say Mini.

Sporting a 6ft 4in frame, he dominates the board. At the BMW head office he recently told other executives that it was "utter nonsense" to attempt to impose BMW quality standards on the production of the revamped Mini.

Herr Hasselkus has his own vision of what he wants Rover to become. The greatest change that customers will notice over the next few years is the reduction in Rover models. Executives have been crowding around drawing boards to discuss plans for two new cars, one combining the Rover 600 and 800, the other the Rover 200 and 400. With this culling exercise, Herr Hasselkus wants to give Rover the same focus that made BMW a successful exporter. The Rover range, he says, is too fragmented to break into foreign markets at the moment. "We are not where we want to be," he said. "We will be applying the same quality control mechanisms to Rover as to BMW."

Then there is the Mini. One Rover executive said: "Mr Hasselkus taught us that the Mini is not a product but a brand." It took a foreigner to alert the company to the fact that the Mini is a cult car around the world. From Germany to Japan car enthusiasts do not care much for Rovers but they spend millions every year to individualise their Minis, with anything from leather seats to shark fins on the roof. The Japanese even organise regular competitions for the best Mini revamps. The new Mini will be sold as a luxury product rather than as a cheap car, part of the Hasselkus revolution. So did he find chaos when he arrived at Rover? He is diplomatic. "There were no skeletons in the cupboards, no surprises. But we want to take Rover up-market. What will sell the cars is their Britishness — to me, that means elegance. The design must be British not German. The world is waiting for great British motor cars."

He insists there was no culture clash and he wasn't sent in by the head office to get tough. Accusations that the British workforce is "lazy, stubborn and incompetent" are simply false. The way that Herr Hasselkus puts it is that "the BMW organisation is more confident than the Rover organisation. BMW is very much used to being successful and has always had very clear direction from the top. Rover is different."

Contrary to suggestions, Herr Hasselkus did not arrive with an entourage of hatchet men from Munich. In fact, he is the only German among the top 400 Rover executives. And, unsurprisingly, most of those bosses do not speak German. They breathed a collective sigh of relief when BMW bosses announced after the 1994 acquisition that the official group language was going to be English.

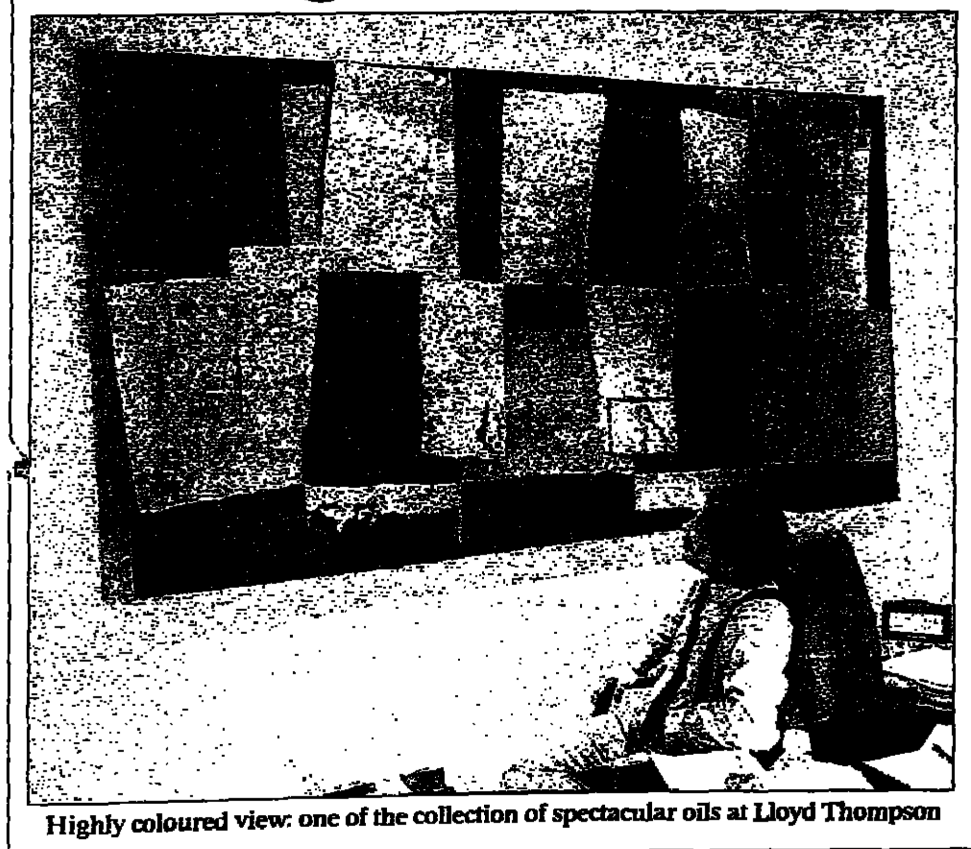
The only other new German speaker in the executive suite is Herr Hasselkus's secretary. She moved over from another department within Rover and often speaks to her boss in German even though he is perfectly fluent in English. Indeed, Herr Hasselkus is keen to ensure continuity at Rover. Over the past two decades, Rover has on average had a new chief executive every other year, while BMW has had only two in the last 25 years. Herr Hasselkus would like to stay in his position until his retirement in six years' time. This would be a record tenure for Rover.

Come 2002, the true measure of his success will be whether the British public has accepted the revamped BMW-modelled Rover. In a speech to the Anglo-German Chamber of Commerce last month, Howard Davies, the Deputy Governor of the Bank of England, told the audience about his car. "I am very happy to drive a BMW," he said. "Never mind that it was a Land Rover Discovery when I bought it." Herr Hasselkus chuckled.

HIDDEN ASSETS

Elegant abstraction amid a sea of grey desks

Joanna Pitman discovers an insurance broker's art collection that catches the eye — and holds it


Highly coloured view: one of the collection of spectacular oils at Lloyd Thompson

When a company decides to collect and display a range of powerful contemporary art works, it raises the intellectual temperature in the office. It is also likely to stir up a loud disparity of opinion in the huddle that gathers around the coffee machine. And so it is at Lloyd Thompson, the insurance broker based at Beaufort House in St Botolph's Street, Aldgate, London.

With the help of Long & Ryle, the Pimlico gallery specialising in corporate art, Lloyd Thompson has put together a collection of paintings by young British artists that is deliberately designed to catch the eye — and hold it.

That is perhaps because its premises are no oil painting — not the sort of spaces that naturally attract attention, let alone compliments. Huge open-plan offices fill Lloyd Thompson's second floor of the building, a series of great grey aircraft hangar-like caverns housing 348 brokers, seated in rows, peering into their computer screens, jabbering into their telephones, and ferrying information to each other like worker bees. The only two private offices are occupied by the chief executive and the finance director.

The set-up did not, therefore, lend itself easily to artistic display. So Long & Ryle has put together a spectacular group of vast canvases of colour bursting with drama, variety and pace. The collection embraces elegant abstraction, quirky figuration, and detailed records of an invented private world. The often repeated criticism that recent art is obscure and hermetic seems to be well off the mark when one is confronted with this variety.

Some of Britain's leading emerging artists are represented. Estelle Thompson, now a much collected young artist who has just had her latest show at the Purdy Hicks Gallery, lures the visitor from the reception area into the open-plan offices with a series of sharp ironic oils — luminous colour applied with an ordinary household decorator's roller brush to create 5ft by 10ft banks of shimmering light that draw in the attentions and questions of the viewer.

Sarah Long, of Long & Ryle, says: "We had a fairly open brief and a pretty tight budget on the collection. One of the directors came to the gallery and we selected some of the core pieces together. It was a very difficult space to fill successfully. Just endless plain beige walls and a sea of grey desks in the middle, all lined up in rows. But I think the only way to tackle it was to have as many big colourful abstracts as possible in order to make the walls and the spaces memorable."

Good collections have a focus, and if this collection has one it is abstract colour, with an emphasis on imagined landscapes placed so as to engulf the viewer and take them away from the world of marine and non-marine insurance.

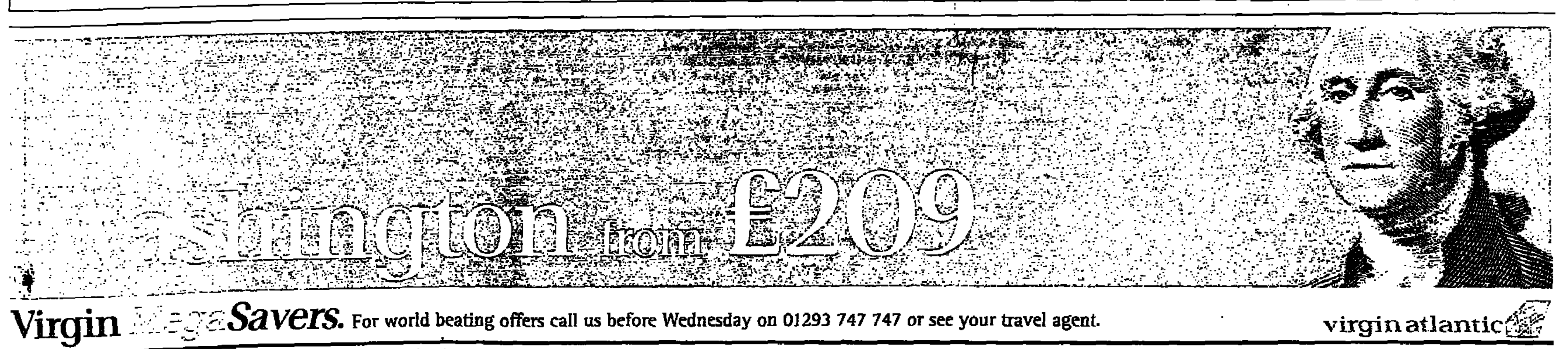
But the collection is not bound by narrow integrities of subject or material and the result is dramatic and inspiring, particularly as the current generation of British graduate artists seems to show none of the ponderous, issue-based solemnity of some of their American counterparts.

Dillwyn Smith, a 38-year-old graduate of the Royal College of Art, who is now attracting international attention, has three huge oil abstracts in the collection. Sophie Knight, a graduate of the Royal Academy and Camberwell School of Art, has an intriguing piece entitled *Summer's End*. Sarah Long says: "These big abstracts together make up the core of a very good collection. Several of the artists represented have become widely collected in the three years since we put this collection together and the value of their work has probably doubled in that time."

The element of risk in putting together this sort of collection of emerging young artists is perhaps one that specially appeals to an insurance broker. But the risk of this particular investment — just £100,000 for 66 works — is nothing to the risk of the reactions of the worker bees in the office.

It seems that approval is far from widespread. One distinctly alienated inmate says: "I'm glad I don't have to look at that blood-spattered scene of purple gloom. This one looks like a whole lot of painted paper doilies. My daughter does that sort of thing at school."

It seems that Estelle Thompson's art collecting policy still faces a long struggle for acceptance. On the other hand, the choice may have been deliberately made to appeal to visiting clients and to keep the worker bees peering diligently into their computer screens.



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STOCK MARKET MICHAEL CLARK

London bounces back above the 4,000 level

SHARES on the London stock market rebounded, ending back above the 4,000 level and just a few points short of the all-time closing high. The FT-SE 100 index closed at its best of the day, with a rise of 33.4 to 4,028.1, supported by a strong opening rise on Wall Street.

London got off to a flying start on the back of an encouraging CBI distributive trades survey and the apparent show of unity on the final day of the Conservative Party conference in Bournemouth. Later in the day, the market took heart from US retail sales and producer prices, both of which provided evidence of an economic slowdown.

Trading conditions generally proved thin, with prices squeezed higher by stock shortages. By the close, a total of 644 million shares had changed hands, with the final figure swollen by some weighty lines of stock being absorbed in the market.

They included 20 million **Sears** at 90p, as the price firmed ½p to 91p, and 1.87 million **Bass** at 757½p, as the price fell 10p to 755p. Other lines on offer included 3.39 million **Asda**, ½p lighter at 108½p; 1.7 million **J Sainsbury**, 3½p easier at 352p; and 1.7 million **Vodafone**, 3½p dearer at 230p.

EMI Group was depressed by talk of falling record sales within the industry. The price fell 16p to £12.85. A little later, a line of a million shares came on offer at £12.70.

The financial performance of **Manchester United** is almost surpassing that of its Premiership side on the pitch these days. The shares shot up 49p to an all-time high of 510½p after a report in *The Times* suggesting that a bid may be on the way from either near neighbour **Granada**, **Whitbread** or **United News & Media**, publisher of the *Daily Express*.

It is said the terms of such a deal would value the league and cup double winners at £350 million, but the club was quick to play down the story yesterday. A spokesman said the club was not aware of any proposals which could lead to an offer being made for the company.

Manchester United recently turned down an offer worth £300 million from Michael Grade, boss of Channel 4 and VCI, the video distributor. That followed comments from Martin Edwards, chief executive, that he might be prepared to sell if the price was right. Edwards currently holds 17 per cent of Manchester United, which earlier this week reported a drop in pre-tax profits to £16.7 million.

Granada, up 9p at 870½p, has already been in talks with Manchester United about developing its own television broadcasting division. Whitbread shed 5½p at 694p. United News & Media, 1p lighter at 662½p, has already had its name linked to **Blenheim**, 1½p dearer at 484p, and **HTV**, up 11p at 376½p. It denied any interest in making an offer for the club.

Shares of **Matthew Clark**, the troubled drinks group, plunged to a five-year low, touching 267½p before rallying to close a net 4½p lower on the day at 309½p. It followed a selling order for 1.95 million shares at 310p on October 3, which was subsequently delayed for a further week.

In the meantime, the seller had hedged his position by taking out a deep-in-the-money option which was exercised on the same day as the underlying sale was declared. This was reported to the market and immediately prompted market-makers to slash the price of the underlying stock.

Only last month, Clark saw its share price plunge from the 670p level after issuing a warning that profits would be hit by increased competition from "alcopops". By the close, fewer than a million shares had traded.

Kingfisher finished 5p higher at 648p in spite of County NatWest, the broker, urging clients to switch into **Dixons** 23p stronger at 567p.

An all-day presentation for brokers was good news for **Securicor** as the price climbed 6p to 279½p. The trip coincided with publication of a buy recommendation from Henderson Crosthwaite, the broker.

It points out that the managed business, which excludes the group's 40 per cent stake in Cellnet, commands a turnover of £1.2 billion but profits of only £31 million. It says there is plenty of scope for improvement which would benefit shareholders.

A trip to its Italian operations by brokers lifted **Enterprise Oil** 17p to 587½p.

The profits setback from **Alpha Airports** was given the thumbs down by brokers, with the price closing 3p lower at 107½p, while a profits warning left **Airflow Streamlines** 70p lower at 185p. Interim figures due out later this month will fall short of expectations. The company blamed the introduction of two significant cab manufacturing programmes.

Shares of **Campbell & Armstrong** returned from suspension 3¾p lower at 6¾p after revealing details of its financial restructuring. **Internet Technology** was requoted on the Alternative Investment Market after the shares were originally suspended to complete a reverse takeover. The price was requoted at the equivalent of 50p and opened at 71p before ending the day at 66½p, a rise of 16½p on the day.

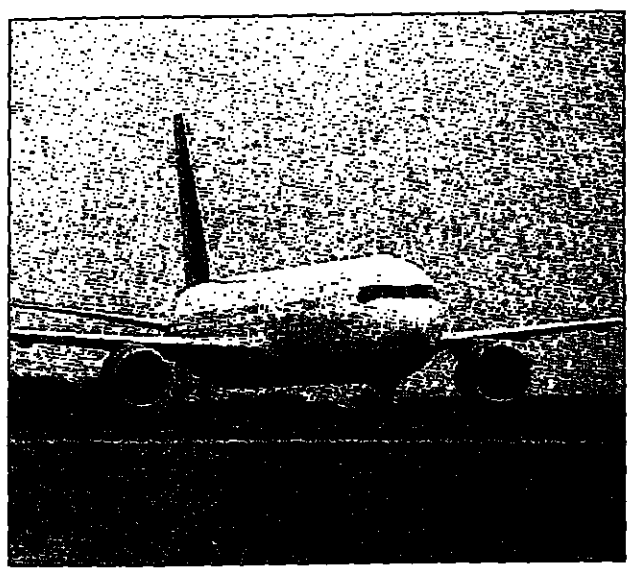
Airtours rose 13p to 606½p as it celebrated the opening of a new tour operating subsidiary in California. This is the group's first venture in the US.

☐ **GILT-EDGED:** The London bond market saw an early lead frittered away after failing to take advantage of firmer US Treasury bonds and evidence of a slowdown in the US economy.

In the futures pit, the December series of the long gilt slipped a tick to £110⅝ as a total of 98,000 contracts were completed.

Back in the cash market, Treasury 8 per cent 2015 lost a tick at £101²⁹⁄₃₂, while at the shorter end, Treasury 8 per cent 2000 was a couple of ticks easier at £104¹¹⁄₃₂.

☐ **NEW YORK:** Reassuring inflation news gave Wall Street a boost, which lifted the Dow Jones industrial average 41.37 points at midday to 5,963.04.



Airtours shares rose on the launch of a US subsidiary

Frost Group, the petrol retailer, rose 4p to 134p after a buy recommendation from Credit Lyonnais Laing, which says that 1997 will be a record year for the group. The group has survived Esso's Price Watch campaign and volumes are now being rebuilt on margins that have already returned to former levels.

MOVERS OF THE WEEK

	Current price	Week's change	
J Sainsbury	352p	-9½p	Large institutional seller
Blenheim	484p	+71p	VNU snaps up 15 per cent stake
Blick	400p	-128p	Profits warning
Marling Industries	14¼p	-3½p	Profits warning
Manchester United	513½p	+62p	Bid speculation
On Demand Info	90p	-50p	Profits warning
Cobham	614p	+53p	Worries about profit slowdown
Eurovein	70p	+16p	Return to black and dividend list
Blacks Leisure	286½p	+32½p	Brokers' recommendation

MAJOR INDICES

New Yorks(midday):
Dow Jones 5963.04 (+41.37)
S&P Composite 699.88 (+5.27)

Tokyo:
Nikkei Average 20968.16 (+97.33)

Hong Kong:
Hang Seng 12218.40 (-24.07)

Amsterdam:
EOE Index 587.20 (+2.83)

Sydney:
AO 2336.8 (+13.3)

Frankfurt:
DAX 2686.03 (+5.28)

Singapore:
Straits 2076.65 (-33.92)

Brussels:
General 9824.18 (+32.15)

Paris:
CAC-40 2147.12 (+11.49)

Zurich:
SKA Gen 791.30 (+0.10)

London:
FT 30 2842.7 (+18.5)
FT 100 4028.1 (+33.4)
FTSE Mid 250 4443.8 (+11.0)
FTSE 350 2004.0 (+14.2)
FTSE Eurotrack 100 1756.66 (+2.32)
FT All-Share 1976.98 (+13.09)
FT Non Financials 2070.5 (+12.4)
FT Fixed Interest 116.28 (+0.06)
FT Govt Secs 94.73 (+0.02)
Bargains 38886
SEAQ Volume 644.5m
USM (Datastrm) 202.45 (+0.19)
US$ 1.5757 (+0.0098)
German Mark 2.4124 (+0.0169)
Exchange Index 87.8 (+0.6)
Bank of England official close (4pm)
£:ECU 1.2535
£:SDR 1.0879
RPI 153.8 Sep (2.1%) Jan 1987=100
RPIX 153.6 Sep (2.9%) Jan 1987=100

RECENT ISSUES

AEA Technology	334½	...
Airtech	70	+ ½
Amer Opps U Ln	95	...
Brunner Mond	170	...
Charles Taylor	161½	- 1
Cruden Bay	83½	...
Deltron Electrn (150)	160½	...
Elec Retail Sys	197½	...
Eurasia Mining	315	...
Grosvenor Land	15¼	...
Harstone 8% Cum	120½	...
Imperial Tobacco	397	- 4
Internet Tech	66½	...
Interoute Tele	171½	- 1
Lavendon	150½	+ 3
Mears Group	12¼	+ ¼
Millennium Chem	1428½	- 16½
Oriental Restrnts	206½	- 1
Personal Number	84½	...
Polydoc	69½	...
Shalibane	139½	+ 2
Thistle Hotels (170)	173½	+ 1
Ultra Electronics	292½	+ 2
Weeks Group	7¼	...

RIGHTS ISSUES

Davis Fin ULS n/p	56	- ½
FII Group n/p (105)	2	...
Grampian n/p (125)	2	...

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:
Man Utd 513½p (+61p)
Alvis 131p (+11½p)
Psion 411p (+28½p)
Courtauld Text 300p (+13½p)
Dixons Gp 567p (+23p)
Pegasus 410p (+15p)
Com Union 668p (+23p)
HTV Group 376½p (+11p)
Tottenhm Hot 450p (+11p)
Gen Accident 739p (+14p)
Airtours 606½p (+13p)
FALLS:
Cohen (A) 370p (145p)
Airflow Stream 185p (70p)
Home Counts 217½p (10p)
Rolfe & Nolan 367½p (10p)
Danka Bs Sys 617½p (10p)
Bass 755p (10½p)
ICI 824½p (11p)

Closing Prices Page 39

TEMPUS

Wait for Rewards

J SAINSBURY'S interim results due to be published at the end of this month, are likely to make grim reading, just like its last set of full-year figures.

The price war being waged on petrol station forecourts up and down the land has meant all retailers of petrol have been losing money in the past few months, after making very healthy profits on it just a year ago. Moreover, the cost of launching Sainsbury's Reward loyalty card will appear in the first half, putting a sizeable dent in profits.

The key factor will be how well Sainsbury supermarket sales have been going in Britain. The presumption, based on market share data produced by the food retailing industry, is that they have been poor in comparison with its direct competitors.

If this turns out to be true, then it will be very bad news for the company. It will not, however, signal its inexorable decline.

The second half of this year should turn out to be less traumatic for Sainsbury's balance sheet. The petrol price war appears to have run out of steam for the time being and Tesco's recently launched price campaign seems to be having little effect on the other leading supermarket groups.

In the longer term, Sainsbury has some advantages over its rivals: it has a successful American supermarket division, with room for significant expansion, and its do-it-yourself operations are expected to show a strong recovery in the second half.

This week's drop in Sainsbury's share price may have been justified by short-term worries, but, in the longer term, it looks at this stage to have been overdone.

Alpha

SHAREHOLDERS who scrambled to get on board Alpha Airports when it was floated off by Forte in 1994, have since enjoyed a less than supersonic ride.

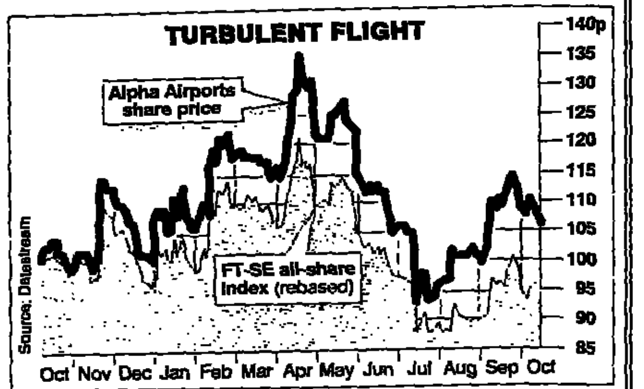
Alpha was floated at 140p and traded just below 110p yesterday. Profits have settled down at a lower altitude than expected, with no signs of climbing.

Yesterday's figures showing an 11 per cent slide in profits confirmed the competitiveness in catering. Airlines cutting costs spend less on feeding passengers leaving Alpha to compete for lower-margin business.

Selling the loss-making US business will ease some of the pressure. With the right offer, the sale of catering is a possibility.

Retailing offers a brighter outlook, in particular outside the mature UK market in the Far East and the US, while ground handling, the newer division formed after the acquisition last year of DynAir, also offers expansion prospects as more airlines contract out activities such as baggage handling.

There is also the possibility of a takeover bid, which could propel Alpha skywards. Granada, which inherited Forte's 25 per cent stake in Alpha, is expected to sell it, and potential bidders such as Lufthansa, SAS and Ogden are periodically tipped to be interested. Analysts have cut the full-year forecast for Alpha to about £22 million reflecting catering but the shares are worth hanging on to.



Wall Street

THOSE who earn a living by studying charts of stock market performance were celebrating yesterday the sixth anniversary of the Wall Street bull market. The bull started its charge on October 11, 1990, in reaction to the steep 20 per cent fall that marked the invasion of Kuwait by Iraq.

But how long will the nineties bull market last on Wall Street, or for that matter in London?

The omens looked good earlier this month when the US Fed held interest rates rather than raised them and the normally troublesome jobs figures fell within expectations. But the US interest rate decision only served to make the markets more nervous about any signs at all of inflation re-emerging and the economy growing at an unsustainable level.

Yesterday markets relaxed as it was announced that American producer prices rose 0.2 per cent in September, less than the 0.3 per cent in August, although the consumer price index next Wednesday will be keenly awaited. US retail sales, also announced yesterday, rose 0.7 per cent in September.

So far so good but investors should remain aware of the damage that could be caused by any inflationary shocks.

Campbell & Armstrong

GIVEN the scale of the problems facing newly appointed chairman Michael Rendle when he climbed into the hot seat at Campbell & Armstrong in January, it is probably no surprise that it took his team nine months to complete its financial restructuring.

In the space of just two months from November the company lost its chief executive, finance director and chairman. In January, administrative receivers werewheeled in to its loss-making contracting arm, Irwins, and on August 1, its shares were suspended.

The interim accounts for the six months to July 31 showed net liabilities increasing to £2.08 million and borrowings up to £7.86 million.

If yesterday's combination of a placing, open offer, debt reorganisation and capital reduction had already gone through at July 31, that picture would have changed dramatically, showing bank borrowings, net of cash of £1.72 million, at £1.07 million and net assets of £4.7 million. The company has made it clear that it is likely to go under if the proposals are rejected. At least one major shareholder is considering its position but managing director David Emslie is, not surprisingly, confident.

With a reported upturn in shopfitting sales in the second half, the company may now be turning the corner. With the shares closing at 6½p today, the market is prepared to wait and see.

COMMODITIES

LIFFE

COCOA

Dec	982-981	Mar	1069-1064
Mar	1010-1009	May	1078-1073
May	1023-1020	Jul	1088 SLR
Jul	1035-1032	Sep	1113-1096
Sep	1050-1049		
Dec	1060-1059		Volume: 6789

ROBUSTA COFFEE ($)

Nov	1521-1519	Jul	1420-1410
Jan	1475-1471	Sep	1420-1405
Mar	1440-1439	Nov	1430-1400
May	1418-1416		Volume: 1880

WHITE SUGAR (FOB)

Reuters		Aug	321.4-21.0
Spot: 331.5		Oct	313.4-13.0
Dec	322.9-22.6	Dec	316.4-14.1
Mar	318.9-18.6	Mar	318.9-15.6
May	319.0-18.7		Volume: 1157

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION

Average fatstock prices at representative markets on October 10

(p/kg lw)	Pig	Sheep	Cattle
GB:	102.74	114.96	97.23
(+/-)	-1.48	-0.93	+0.47
Eng/Wales:	102.68	114.95	96.33
(+/-)	-1.52	-1.40	-0.36
(%)	-29.0	+5.0	+9.0
Scotland:	109.17	115.02	100.73
(+/-)	+1.71	+1.66	+3.76
(%)	-5.0	-9.0	-8.0

ICIS-LOR (London 6.00pm)

CRUDE OILS ($/barrel FOB)

Brent Physical	23.85	+0.15
Brent 15 day (Nov)	23.90	+0.20
Brent 15 day (Dec)	23.50	+0.25
W Texas Intermediate (Nov)	24.60	+0.15
W Texas Intermediate (Dec)	24.25	+0.15

PRODUCTS ($/MT)

Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)

	Bid	Offer
Premium Unld	225 (-3)	227 (-3)
Gasoil EEC	236 (-1)	238 (-1)
3.5 Fuel Oil	125 (+2)	126 (+2)
Naphtha	227 (+1)	231 (+2)

IPE FUTURES (GNI Ltd)

GAS OIL

Dec	220.00-20.25	Mar	196.25-96.75
Jan	214.25-14.50	Apr	186.50 BID
Feb	205.50-05.75		Vol: 11918

BRENT (6.00pm)

Nov	23.90 SLR	Feb	22.20 BID
Dec	23.50-23.54	Mar	21.52-21.58
Jan	22.90 SLR		Vol: 22340

GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

WHEAT (close £/t)		BARLEY (close £/t)	
Nov	99.60	*Nov*	100.00
Jan	101.60	Jan	101.00
Mar	102.80	Mar	102.50
May	104.70	May	103.75
Jul	106.20	Sep	95.50
Volume: 592		Volume: 75	

POTATO (£/t)	Open	Close
Nov	unq	35.0
Mar		76.2
Apr	73.6	76.8
		Volume: 42

RUBBER (No 1 RSS Cif p/kl)
Nov 84.25-84.75

BIFFEX (GNI Ltd $10/pt)

	High	Low	Close
Oct 96	1155	1145	1146
Nov 96	1240	1230	1235
Dec 96	1235	1220	1225
Jan 97	1254	1245	1246
Vol: 240 lots		Open interest: 4166	

Index 1063 +9

LONDON METAL EXCHANGE

(Official) (Volume prev day)	Cash	3mth	Rudolf Wolff
Copper Gde A ($/tonne)	1966.0-1967.0	1953.0-1954.0	Vol: 1563450
Lead ($/tonne)	759.00-760.00	760.00-761.00	139950
Zinc Spec Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1005.5-1006.0	1030.5-1031.0	1242000
Tin ($/tonne)	6005.0-6010.0	6060.0-6065.0	19615
Aluminium Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1295.5-1296.0	1326.0-1327.0	1435075
Nickel ($/tonne)	7030.0-7035.0	7130.0-7140.0	42238

LIFFE OPTIONS

	Series	Calls Oct	Calls Jan	Calls Apr	Puts Oct	Puts Jan	Puts Apr
Alld Dom	420	21½	29½	36½	0½	12½	17
(*441)	460	0½	9	18	19½	36	39½
ASDA	100	8½	12	14	0	1½	3
(*108½)	110	1	6	7½	2½	5½	7
Boots	600	39	47½	61	0	7½	13½
(*638½)	650	2½	18	31½	12½	28½	34½

	Series	Calls Oct	Calls Jan	Calls Apr	Puts Oct	Puts Jan	Puts Apr
BAA	500	5½	22½	34	3½	16½	22½
(*503)	550	0	5½	14	47	51½	54½
Thames W.	550	6	20	34	5	21½	31
(*551½)	600	0	5	15½	46½	58½	63

	Series	Calls Dec	Calls Apr	Calls Jul	Puts Dec	Puts Apr	Puts Jul
Abby Nat.	600	25	39	46½	18½	35½	40
(*600½)	650	7	18	26	51½	67½	71
Amstrad	140	11½	—	—	7	—	—
(*143½)	160	4	—	—	19	—	—
Barclays	950	40½	59	72½	25	46	54

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Period	Open	High	Low	Sett	Vol
FT-SE 100	Dec 96	4028.0	4066.0	4016.0	4060.0	11837
Previous open interest: 62320	Mar 97				4072.0	0
FT-SE 250	Dec 96				4466.0	0
Previous open interest: 3571	Mar 97					0
Three Month Sterling	Dec 96	93.97	94.00	93.95	93.97	12447
Previous open interest: 420020	Mar 97	93.78	93.85	93.77	93.79	24688
	Jun 97	93.55	93.60	93.52	93.55	19533
Three Mth Euro Yen	Mar 97				99.32	0
	Jun 97	99.17	99.17	99.17	99.18	411
Three Mth Euro DM	Dec 96	96.86	96.87	96.85	96.86	17811
Previous open interest: 1082444	Mar 97	96.82	96.87	96.82	96.84	19566
Long Gilt	Dec 96	110-05	110-25	110-01	110-10	103560
Previous open interest: 168816	Mar 97				109-14	0
Japanese Govmt Bond	Dec 96	123.33	123.43	123.24	123.39	2084
	Mar 97	122.35	122.35	122.35	122.39	90
German Gov Bd Bund	Dec 96	99.33	99.65	99.21	99.27	201692
Previous open interest: 266759	Mar 97	98.40	98.65	98.34	98.28	562
Three month ECU	Dec 96	95.87	95.89	95.85	95.87	600
Previous open interest: 22756	Mar 97	95.88	95.92	95.88	95.90	755
Euro Swiss Franc	Dec 96	98.31	98.38	98.32	98.36	3708
Previous open interest: 85740	Mar 97	98.30	98.36	98.30	98.34	3201
Italian Govmt Bond	Dec 96	123.51	123.80	123.03	123.28	51613
Previous open interest: 83491	Mar 97	123.00	122.58	122.52	1033	

MONEY RATES (%)

Base Rates: Clearing Banks 5¾ Finance Hse 6
Discount Market Loans: O/night high: 5[illegible] Low 5 Week fixed: 5¾
Treasury Bills (Dis): Buy: 2 mth 5[illegible]; 3 mth 5[illegible]. Sell: 2 mth 5[illegible]; 3 mth: 5[illegible].

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Prime Bank Bills (Dis):	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	
Sterling Money Rates:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Interbank:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

Overnight: open 5[illegible], close 5.

Local Authority Deps:	[illegible]	n/a	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Sterling CDs:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Dollar CDs:	5.29	n/a	5.45	5.58	5.80
Building Society CDs:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

TREASURY BILLS: Applcts: £1,071m allotted: £300m: Bids: £98.625% received: 94%; Last week: £98.62% received: 36%; Avge rate: £5.5136% last wk £5.4919%; Next week: £200m.

EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS (%)

Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth	Call
Dollar:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	5-4
Deutschemark:	[illegible]	[illegible]	3⅛-3	[illegible]	[illegible]
French Franc:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	4-3
Swiss Franc:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	2-1
Yen:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	1-par

GOLD/PRECIOUS METALS (Baird & Co)

Bullion: Open $381.90-382.20 Close: $380.80-381.30 *High:* $382.00-382.50
Low: $380.00-380.50 AM: $381.85 PM: $380.75

Krugerrand: $380.00-382.00 (£240.00-242.00)

Platinum: $386.50 (£245.40) Silver: $5.02 (£3.175) Palladium: $117.75 (£74.75)

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Mkt Rates for Oct 11	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
Amsterdam	2.6992-2.7066	2.7040-2.7066	[illegible]pr	[illegible]pr
Brussels	49.600-49.742	49.660-49.742	14-10pr	38-32pr
Copenhagen	9.2190-9.2485	9.2418-9.2485	[illegible]pr	[illegible]pr
Dublin	0.9748-0.9812	0.9794-0.9804	3-1pr	7-1pr
Frankfurt	2.4063-2.4135	2.4116-2.4135	[illegible]pr	[illegible]pr
Lisbon	243.15-244.14	243.89-244.14	[illegible]ds	[illegible]ds
Madrid	202.40-202.98	202.77-202.98	15-25ds	41-59ds
Milan	2391.4-2400.4	2398.4-2400.4	42-57ds	12-14ds
Montreal	2.1256-2.1346	2.1307-2.1323	0.45-0.41pr	0.86-0.80pr
New York	1.5728-1.5762	1.5750-1.5756	0.077-0.057pr	0.158-0.127pr
Oslo	10.229-10.256	10.248-10.256	[illegible]ds	[illegible]ds
Paris	8.1350-8.1663	8.1612-8.1663	[illegible]pr	[illegible]pr
Stockholm	10.369-10.404	10.387-10.402	[illegible]ds	[illegible]pr
Tokyo	175.08-175.95	175.77-175.95	[illegible]pr	[illegible]pr
Vienna	16.927-16.979	16.965-16.979	[illegible]pr	[illegible]pr
Zurich	1.9697-1.9777	1.9762-1.9777	[illegible]pr	[illegible]ds

Source: Extel Premium - pr. Discount - ds.

DOLLAR RATES

Australia	1.2629-1.2637
Austria	10.76-10.77
Belgium (Com)	31.53-31.57
Canada	1.3525-1.3530
Denmark	5.8675-5.8695
France	5.1810-5.1830
Germany	1.5307-1.5312
Hong Kong	7.7320-7.7330
Ireland	1.6070-1.6080
Italy	1524.10-1524.30
Japan	111.59-111.64
Malaysia	2.5054-2.5059
Netherlands	1.7165-1.7170
Norway	6.5030-6.5060
Portugal	154.81-154.91
Singapore	1.4086-1.4096
Spain	128.75-128.77
Sweden	5.5948-6.6023
Switzerland	1.2538-1.2548

OTHER STERLING

Argentina peso*	1.5738-1.5754
Australia dollar	1.9890-1.9915
Bahrain dinar	0.5850-0.5970
*Brazil real**	1.5706-1.5748
China yuan	n/a
Cyprus pound	0.7240-0.7340
Finland markka	7.1125-7.2285
Greece drachma	373.25-380.25
Hong Kong dollar	12.1740-12.1833
India rupee	55.44-56.40
Indonesia rupiah	3606.0-3674.6
Kuwait dinar KD	0.4655-0.4755
Malaysia ringgit	3.9453-3.9478
New Zealand dollar	2.2664-2.2695
Pakistan rupee	57.40 Buy
Saudi Arabia riyal	5.6475-5.7715
Singapore dollar	2.2186-2.2204
S Africa rand (com)	7.0880-7.1900
U A E dirham	5.6950-5.8190

Barclays Bank GTS • Lloyds Bank

FTSE VOLUMES

3i	220	Lloyds TSB	7,100
ASDA Gp	20,800	LucasVarity	5,200
Abbey Ntl	1,400	Marks Spr	4,200
Allied Dom	3,900	NatWst Bk	2,500
Argos	667	Nat Grid	5,700
AB Foods	502	Nat Power	2,600
BAA	3,400	Next	2,000
BAT Inds	7,800	Orange	291
BOC	1,400	P & O	799
BP	6,400	Pearson	1,800
BSkyB	2,700	Pilkington	2,000
BTR	11,100	PowerGen	1,500
BT	4,300	Prudential	2,000
Bk of Scot	2,900	RMC	592
Barclays	2,100	RTZ	2,600
Bass	3,600	Railtrack	2,200
Blue Circle	1,500	Rank Group	1,400
Boots	2,300	Reckitt Col	1,100
BAe	1,300	Redland	613
BA	5,400	Reed Intl	682
Brit Gas	10,300	Rentokil	2,300
Brit Steel	5,700	Reuters	2,800
Burmah Cstl	405	Rolls Royce	11,400
Burton	5,700	Royal & Sun	5,300
Cable Wire	10,900	Royal Bk Sct	665
Cadbury	1,800	Safeway	3,300
Carlton Cms	1,600	Sainsbury	6,500
Cm Union	3,300	Schroders	202
Courtaulds	941	Scot & New	1,100
Dixons	4,000	*Scot Power*	1,100
EMI	2,200	Svrn Trent	603
Enterpr Oil	3,000	*Shell Trans*	7,900
GKN	977	Siebe	687
GRE	4,300	SmKl Bch	2,400
GUS	2,200	Smith Nph	4,900
Gen Acc	1,300	Smiths Inds	602
Gen Elec	2,500	Std Chartd	5,600
Glaxo Well	3,200	TI Gp	1,000
Granada	1,700	Tate & Lyle	1,200
Grand Met	2,300	Tesco	7,300
Guinness	4,500	Thames W	556
HSBC	1,700	Tomkins	2,400
Hanson	8,900	Unilever	1,700
ICI	1,100	*Utd Utilities*	712
Imp Tob	9,000	Utd News	919
Kingfisher	3,100	Vodafone	6,500
LASMO	1,400	Whitbread	4,700
Ladbroke	750	Wllms Hld	867
Land Secs	512	Wolseley	1,100
Legal & Gn	5,600	Zeneca	1,400

WALL STREET

	Oct 11 midday	Oct 10 close
AMP Inc	[illegible]	[illegible]
AMR Corp	[illegible]	[illegible]
ASA	[illegible]	[illegible]
AT & T	[illegible]	[illegible]
Abbott Labs	[illegible]	[illegible]
Advanced Micro	16	[illegible]

	Oct 11 midday	Oct 10 close
Eastman Kodak	[illegible]	[illegible]
Eaton Corp	[illegible]	59
Edison Intl	[illegible]	[illegible]
Emerson Elec	90	[illegible]
Engelhard Corp	[illegible]	19
Enron Corp	41	[illegible]

	Oct 11 midday	Oct 10 close
Oracle	[illegible]	[illegible]
Oryx Energy Co	[illegible]	[illegible]
Overseas Ship	[illegible]	[illegible]
Owens Corning	[illegible]	[illegible]
PHH Corp	[illegible]	[illegible]
PPG Industries	[illegible]	[illegible]

CARING COVER 33

Insurance can ease burden of illness

WEEKEND MONEY

PETS AND VETS 37

Eye on costs to cover the family menagerie

Sweeteners can leave a bitter taste

Marianne Curphey asks who really reaps the benefits from shareholder perks

There are 10,000 people in Britain who can cross the Channel any time they like, as often as they like, completely free of charge. Indirectly, though, they have paid a high price for the privilege.

These people are Eurotunnel's shareholders. Most of them have relatively small holdings, and if they bought their shares at launch in 1987 and are still holding them, they will have seen the value fall by around 70 per cent.

To make their holding worthwhile they would have needed to make 50 return trips on Eurotunnel in the past two years. By any standards that is a lot of travelling. About 140,000 more shareholders have limited travel concessions.

This week a proposed £4.7 billion agreement to rebuild Eurotunnel's finances was put forward by the company's management. Shareholders have yet to vote on it, but they will be unlikely to enjoy any dividends until 2005 or 2006. Shares were suspended at 113½p at the end of September and after trading resumed on Tuesday they fell to 93p. They are now trading at around 98p. Some in the City are warning that further restructuring may be necessary in the future.

According to Justin Urquhart Stewart of Barclays Stockbrokers, this demonstrates why, with a few exceptions, no one should buy shares just for the perks. "If you live within ten miles of Dover and commute to Calais on private business, or your family lives there, it might be worthwhile," he says. "Otherwise, perks are the icing on the cake."

Anyone who bought more than 1,500 Eurotunnel shares during the first issue in 1987 or the second issue in 1990 — but not the rights issue of 1994 — would have been rewarded with the option of unlimited travel on Eurotunnel. The travel perks last for as long as Eurotunnel is the operator for the Channel Tunnel. At present, that concession runs until 2052. The vast majority of Eurotunnel's 150,000 British and 600,000 French investors have travel perks.

Mr Urquhart Stewart believes that more and more companies will offer shareholder perks in the future to gain their loyalty and to encourage them to spend more on their products.

He says: "When Somerfield planned its flotation this summer it cleverly put application forms for shares near the checkouts in its supermarkets. If people buy shares, they are less likely to go elsewhere for their groceries because they have a personal interest in the fortunes of the company."

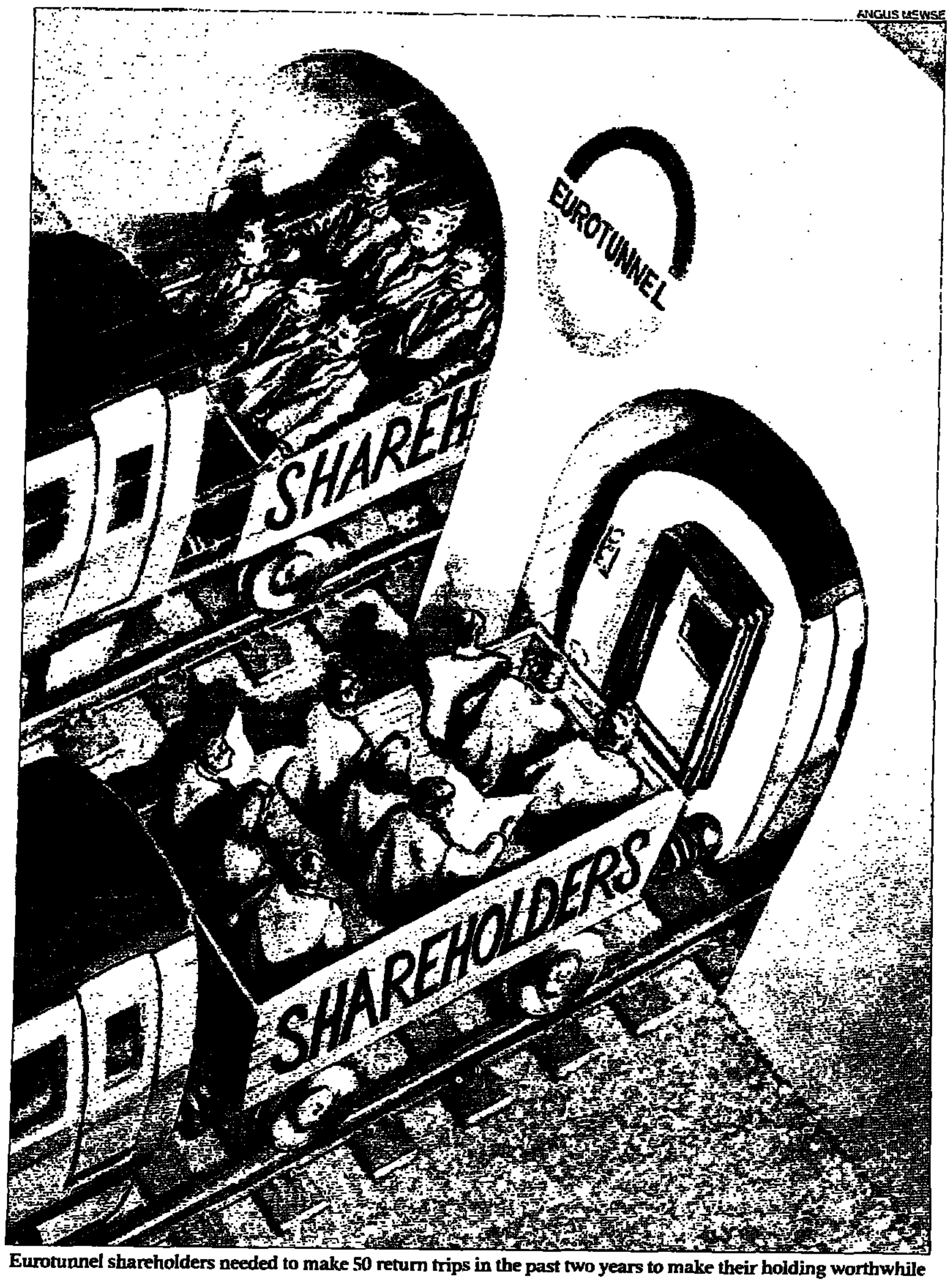
He predicts that British Airways will offer better discounts and travel concessions to its shareholders to persuade them to travel by BA.

"In the past, companies have used perks as a sweetener, to keep shareholders quiet. Over the next few years they will be developed as strategic marketing tools to create a club atmosphere and encourage long-term shareholding," he says. "For example, Whitbread might introduce a card giving shareholders discounts right across its range of leisure facilities."

Despite the potential marketing benefits, some companies refuse to grant perks to anyone who is not on the shareholder register.

This means that anyone who has a nominee account through a broker is banned from receiving these benefits, even if the broker is prepared to collect them on his or her behalf.

The companies involved are: Argos, Barrett Developments, HP Bulmers, Burton, Eurotunnel, General Accident, Gieves Group, Hollas Group, Lex Service, Lookers, Next, P&O, Psion, Sears and Toye & Co.



Eurotunnel shareholders needed to make 50 return trips in the past two years to make their holding worthwhile

Perks add to shares' appeal

Sharelink, the execution-on broker, has urged compani which at present give per only to those shareholders on tl register to review this policy (Ma anne Curphey writes). Emma Kar Sharelink spokeswoman, said: ' few did change their mind, and v still are working on the others."

P&O is one of the organisatio which currently refuses to allo people with nominee accounts benefit from perks, yet P&O's trav concessions for shareholders a regarded as the best in the mark Depending on your holding, you ca claim up to 50 per cent discount c Dover-Calais and Felixstowe-Ze brugge crossings, and 40 per cent c the Portsmouth-Cherbourg route.

Clothing retailers also give gene ous perks. Laura Ashley issues a shareholders with discount voucl ers, and Austin Reed a discount car giving 15 per cent off all menswea and women's wear. Next gives a per cent discount voucher against a purchases made on one occasio from a branch, and Sears gives per cent off most goods in shops c catalogues.

Meanwhile, the hotel grou Queens Moat Houses will give a 3 per cent discount on Weekend Brea prices to investors with 1,000 share or more. Friendly Hotels gives a l per cent discount on accommoda tion. Berisford shareholders can bu Magnet kitchen and bedroom item at half price.

If you invest in a holiday com pany, there are special deals on thei own packages: British Airways i well known for the 10 per cent trave discount it offers shareholders an three immediate family members Airtours gives 10 per cent off th published price of any of its holiday booked through its Shareholder Holiday Advice line.

Barclays Stockbrokers (0800 55 1 77) has a free booklet detailing al benefits offered by companies, an the amount of shares needed t secure them.

Weekend Money is edited by Anne Ashworth

Bad business for annuities

Caroline Merrell explains why

Poorer pensions for those retiring in the final months of this year will be the result of an increase in sales at life-insurance companies, where turnover has been boosted by soaring markets.

One of the industry's responses to this reversal in its fortunes has been to decrease the rates offered on retirement annuities — many have done as much annuity business as they would like already this year, and are no longer interested in offering the most-competitive rates.

Annuity rates have fallen about 2.5 per cent since the beginning of September. Anyone with a personal pension must, by law, use 75 per cent of the proceeds to buy an annuity from which their pension will be paid. Billy Burrows, director of Annuity Direct, a financial adviser specialising in annuities, said: "These falls have been expected for some time — rates have been protected by companies competing for business over the summer period."

Annuities are one of the most overlooked areas of pension planning. It is no good building up a healthy retirement fund, only to choose an annuity which pays a low level of income. All those retiring with any sort of pension fund, whether a pool of money generated through an additional voluntary contribution plan, a personal pension plan or the precurser to a personal pension, an S226 plan, can opt for an annuity from any company. Instead, most choose to take out the product offered by the company they have their pension with. As the table on page 28 shows, choosing a good annuity over a bad one can make a difference of thousands of pounds.

To make matters more confusing, three distinct types of annuity are now available. The first is a conventional annuity. Your accumulated pension fund is exchanged for a guaranteed level of income with income set when the annuity is purchased. If the pensioner dies, the pension stops, unless a widow or widower's pension has been specifically allocated. The conventional annuity obviously exposes the retired person to risks from inflation. Some companies will offer annuities linked to the inflation rate; indexation will result in a lower annual pension.

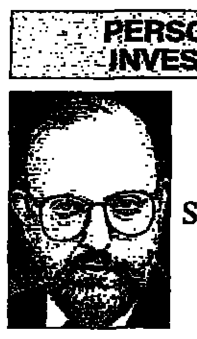
More recently, the industry has allowed more flexible annuities. The second type, the phased retirement annuity, divides an individual's pension fund into segments. These are encashed at different times up to age 75. The encashed segments comprise tax-free cash and money to purchase an annuity.

Phased retirement will give the pensioner some protection against inflation as he or she is

Continued on page 28, col 6

Tax breaks yes, abuses no

PERSONAL INVESTOR



GRAHAM SEARJEANT

Better late than never. This week Kenneth Clarke finally closed the gross-dividend loophole. Had he followed the advice whispered in this column last November, he would have ended the worst abuse — the use of special dividends in takeovers — in his 1995 Budget. Since then, about £1.7 billion more has been paid out, plus £3 billion in selective share buybacks, charging taxpayers about £1 billion.

That cash was no boon to private investors and was giving pension funds a bad name. City brains devised a way to make taxpayers fund part of the cost of takeover bids. But this gave more money to pension funds than to others.

Many bids included a special dividend from the target company straight after it was taken over. Pension funds and charities, which are not liable to tax on dividends, could claim £1 from the Revenue for every £4 of "dividend". So could individuals with too little income to pay tax, but they would probably not have to pay tax on capital gains. Some higher-rate taxpayers would have to pay extra on the dividend but set capital gains against their tax allowance.

Takeover bids always affect people differently according to their tax status. But dividend-bolstered bids were deliberately engineered — and advertised — to give more to gross funds than other shareholders. Adding to the insult, these dividends featured in bids for companies with lots of small shareholders, such as TSB and electricity distributors.

By design, investors were treated differently. The first rule of the City Takeover Code says that they must be treated equally. The Takeover Panel failed to act. This should be remembered when the City pleads to keep the self-policing panel system rather than move to Europe-wide takeover rules.

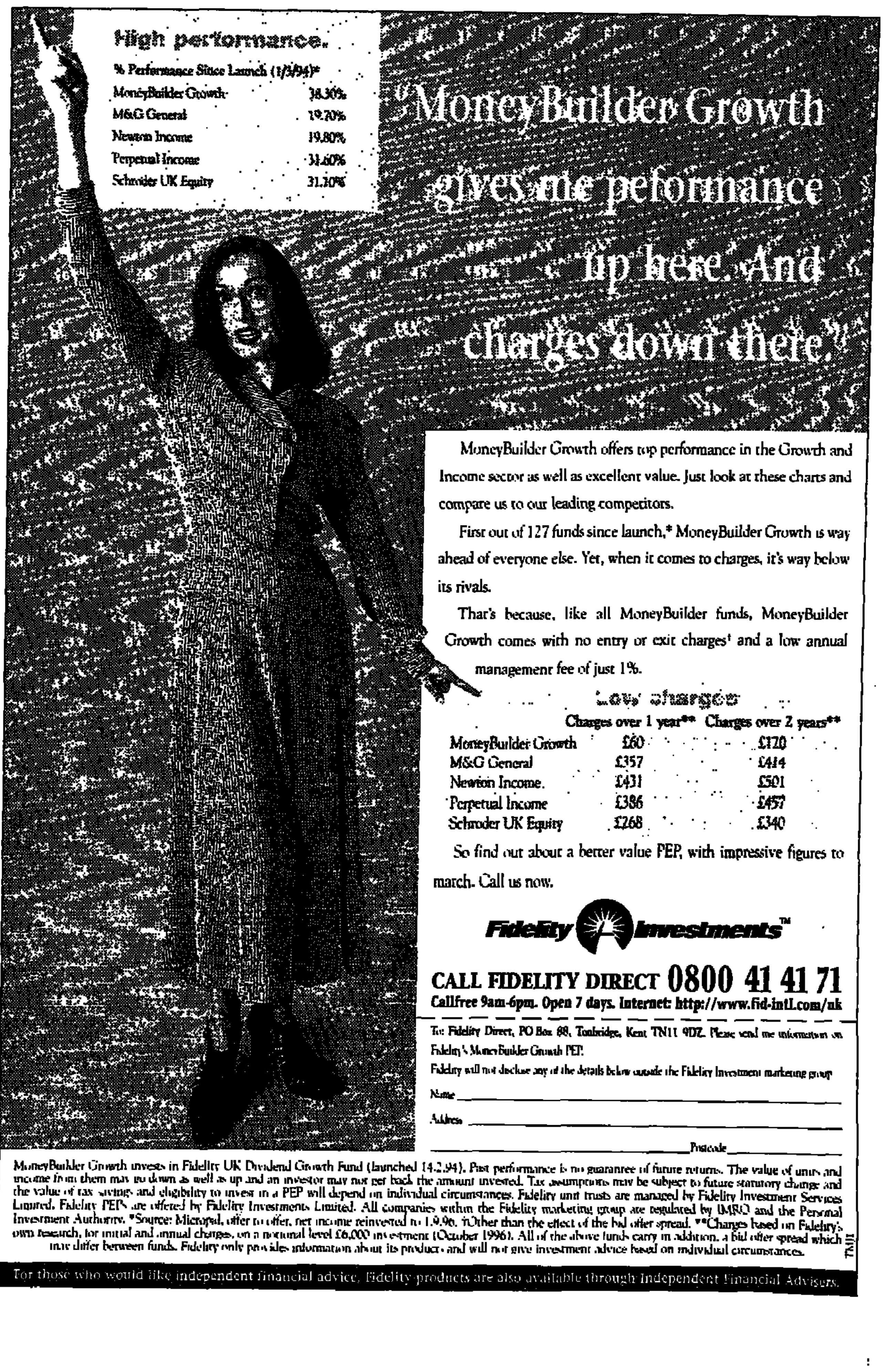
Share buybacks, which are also taxed partly as distributions, had a subtler effect. Companies bought only from big funds, incidentally annoying charities and smaller funds that were left out. They got a premium over the market price, met by taxpayers. But any rise in earnings per share on reduced capital was potentially good for all. Fewer buybacks will be justified in future.

The change, which stops gross funds claiming dividend tax back, should not affect genuine special dividends paid to all. These are healthy, for instance when a company sells part of its business and does not want to invest in something it knows little about just for the sake of it. These payouts may be less appealing. To cover schemes such as the one devised for Reuters, the ruling also hits any special dividend that goes hand in hand with a cut in nominal capital. Such consolidations aim to keep earnings per share up, kidding investors that they can eat a slice of cake and leave it intact.

Finance directors claim that small investors will not understand or forgive sharp falls in earnings the year after loads of cash is paid out. That may be true. They could try offering the Revenue some other form of words that leaves them free to play around with their capital while stopping companies from diverting cash to gross funds that can claim money from taxpayers.

Experience suggests, however, that the fund managers who have driven companies to exploit these loopholes are far more obsessed with smooth growth of reported earnings. Private investors know the world is not like that. The gross dividend scandal shows how blinkered City thinking, in the log run, can hurt the very people it aims to help.

Millions of pension fund members are paper losers from the Chancellor's spoilsport tactics. In reality, we should wish he had acted faster. More than ever, pension funds need tax breaks, both to persuade people decades from retirement to lock away their savings and to deliver decent pensions. These privileges depend on general consent. If that is lost, tax-hungry Chancellors will raid them, as Norman Lamont did in 1993, to raise cash the easy way. Perceived abuses give ammunition to pensioners' enemies. Behind the smiling faces, there are more of those than you think.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Schroder UK Equity	31.10%

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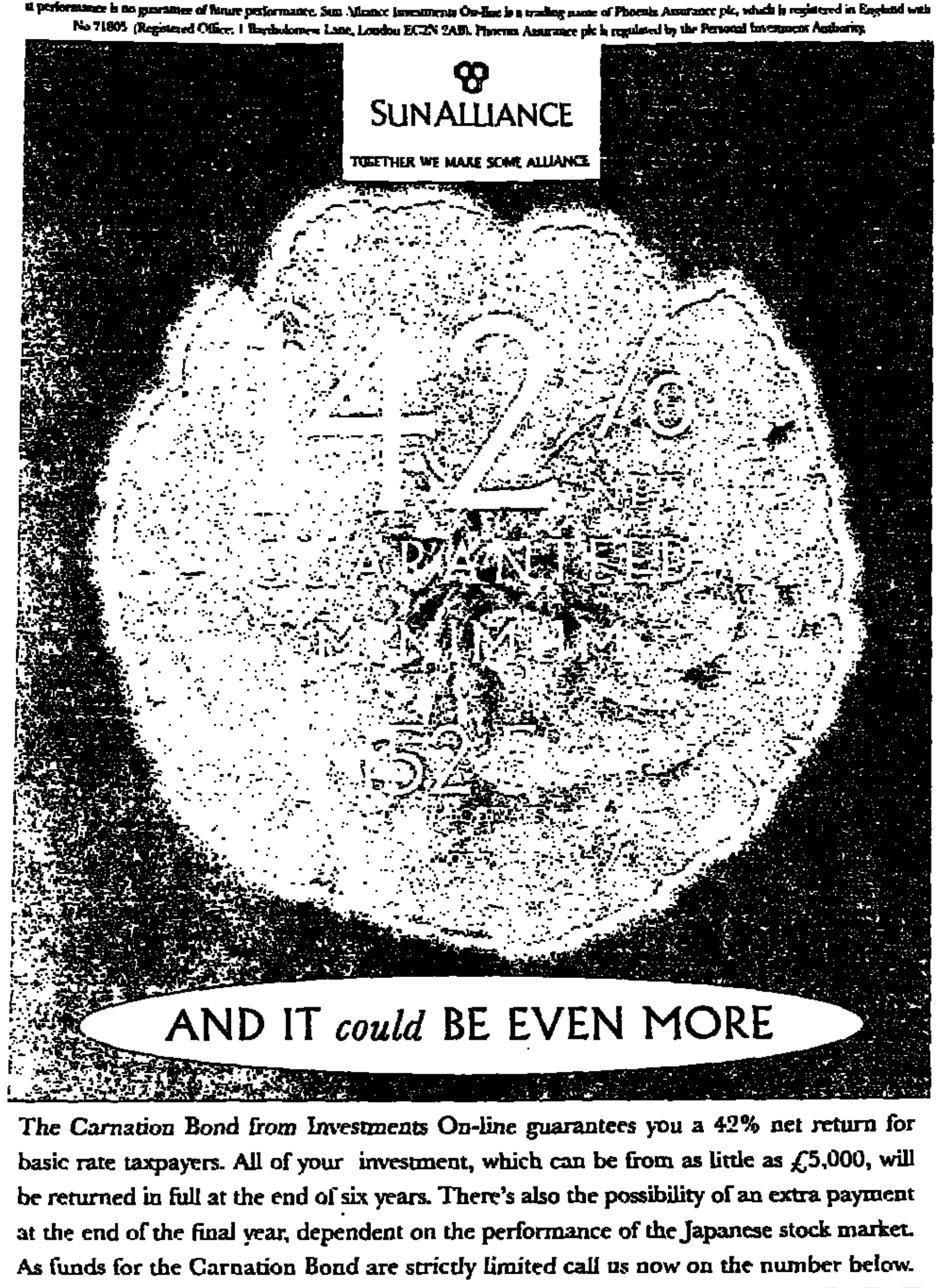
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Question of Money: **Fiona Bawdon** on a fresh tack on legal action

New brand of justice

Marlboro, the US tobacco giant, is being sued by the widow of one of its models. She claims its cigarettes gave him cancer

The news that a group of 40 lung cancer victims is to sue two leading tobacco companies on a "no win, no fee" basis has reawakened interest in this relatively new approach to funding legal action. Conditional fees, as they are called, were introduced in July 1995. So far more than 12,000 people have signed up. Most will be straightforward personal injury cases — people suing for work injuries or in a road accident.

Conditional fees are increasingly being seen as an alternative to legal aid. The ex-smokers turned to this method of funding after legal aid was withdrawn because the board that administers legal aid didn't think they would win. The approach is often used by people whose income is too high to qualify for legal aid but too low to fund a case themselves. Only around 50 per cent of the population now qualifies for legal aid.

Q How do "no win, no fee" arrangements work?

A The proper term for them is conditional fees. To call them "no win, no fee" is somewhat misleading as you may still end up having to pay a big legal bill if you lose. In this country the loser has to pay the winning side's legal costs, which may be substantial. With a conditional fee arrangement your own solicitor will waive his costs if you lose but unless it is used in conjunction with after-the-event insurance (see below) you would still have to pay the other side's solicitors bill. If you win, you will have to pay your solicitor a success fee which can be up to double his normal fee. The level of success fee should reflect the level of risk involved. For example, the tobacco litigation will be breaking new legal ground and is therefore extremely speculative. The solicitors in this case are charging the maximum 100 per cent success fee. With smaller, more certain cases, a lower success fee would probably be appropriate. Whatever level of success fee is agreed, don't sign a conditional fee agreement unless your solicitor imposes a cap on the level of damages that can be eaten up in his fees. The Law Society recommends one of 25 per cent.

Q When can conditional fees be used?

A At the moment, conditional fees are only allowed for personal injury, insolvency, and human rights cases. It is likely, however, that they will be extended to other types of civil litigation.

Q What is "after the event" insurance?

A "After the event" insurance protects a losing party from having to pay the other side's legal bills. It is designed specifically to be used in conjunction with conditional fees. The Law Society has approved a scheme called "accident line protects" which is available only through specialised personal injury firms. ALP costs £85 for £100,000 worth of insurance. It generally covers mainstream personal injury cases only. "After the event insurance" is not generally available for cases which are thought to be particularly risky, or complicated. For example, the litigants in the smoking case are uninsured. In theory, they are risking bankruptcy if they lose. In reality, however, they are banking on the fact that the tobacco companies won't be hard-hearted enough to chase cancer victims for costs. (The companies may well, however, try to get the case thrown out altogether because of their opponents' lack of funds). However, some observers predict that it is only a matter of time before insurance cover becomes available for this kind of ground-breaking case. Although the "after the event" market is only a year old, there have already been significant developments. Cover for medical negligence cases — where somebody has been injured during the course of medical treatment — which are notoriously expensive and difficult to bring, is expected to be launched soon.

Q How do conditional fees differ from US-style contingency fees?

A In the US, law firms can charge a percentage of the successful client's eventual damage, typically around 30 per cent. This means that firms can sometimes end up with millions and millions of dollars in big cases. In this country the amount of damages won has no bearing on how much the solicitor gets. Instead his success fee is linked to his normal charging levels, plus an uplift for having run the risk of not getting paid at all. The other big difference is that in the US there is no loser pays rule. Each side pays its own costs regardless of the outcome of the case — so there is no need for "after the event" insurance.

Bad business for annuities

RATES AS OF OCTOBER 4, 1996

Single Life Guarantee
5 monthly in advance
Level £50,000

COMPANY	RATE
1 Sun Life of Canada	£5,580.85
2 Equitable Life	£5,573.80
3 Generali	£4,450.00
4 Stalwart Assurance	£5,540.00
5 Canada Life	£5,533.80

Joint Life 50% Guarantee
5 monthly in advance
Level £50,000

COMPANY	RATE
1 Britannia Life	£4,762.20
2 Sun Alliance	£4,670.40
3 Scottish Amicable	£4,614.60
4 Scottish Equitable	£4,610.40
5 Scottish Mutual	£4,608.55

RATES AS OF AUGUST 30, 1996

Single Life Guarantee
5 monthly in advance
Level £50,000

COMPANY	RATE
1 Prudential	£5,696.40
2 Sun Life of Canada	£5,690.35
3 Generali	£5,629.05
4 Norwich Union	£5,604.60
5 Standard Life	£5,584.00

Joint Life 50% Guarantee
5 monthly in advance
Level £50,000

COMPANY	RATE
1 Sun Alliance	£4,786.40
2 Britannia Life	£4,762.20
3 Scottish Amicable	£4,614.60
4 Scottish Equitable	£4,610.40
5 Scottish Mutual	£4,608.55

Continued from page 27

not using the entire fund to purchase a pension at a single moment in time. The annuity rates will vary according to prevailing interest rates. The third type is the drawdown annuity where the pension-fund money is invested until a proportion is needed to buy a guaranteed income. The theory is that you can benefit from any further growth in the pension fund, and can also choose to encash more when rates are more advantageous. But, leaving your pension fund money invested in the stock market is a risk.

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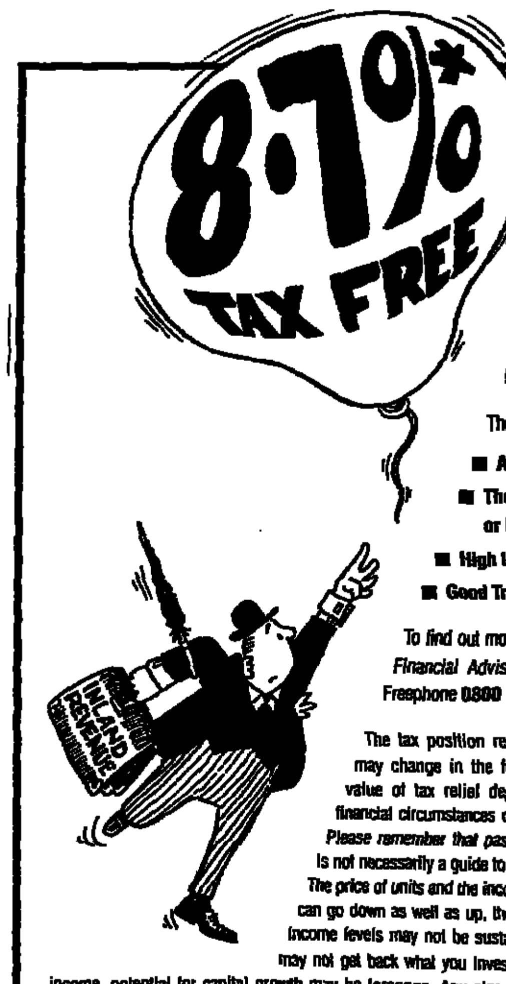

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مكنزا من الأصل

Join the queue: Norwich Union endowment policies were among the most eagerly hunted

Secondary market is alive and kicking

Adam Jones on why sales of surrendered endowments will flourish

The growth in the market for second-hand endowment policies is unlikely to be checked by the announcement of Norwich Union's move to plc status.

The news, which was expected, meant those who had bought an endowment policy before October 1, either through the insurer or through the secondary market, will receive free shares in the reorganised company. The sum will hinge on the size and duration of the policy. The average payout to members in general is expected to be £500.

The possibility of insurers being taken over or shedding their mutual status like this has helped to push the trading of second-hand endowments to record levels, with Norwich Union policies among the most eagerly hunted.

Traditionally, if a policyholder couldn't afford to continue paying the premiums, they would have surrendered the policy to the issuing life office, getting back only a small proportion of what the investment would have been worth on maturity. But with the development of a secondary arena for buying and selling second-hand policies, the sums that could be raised increased significantly — between 10 per cent and 15 per cent is possible — as market forces came into play.

Last year, £150 million of policies were traded, compared to £5 million five years ago. This year, demand was greatly increased for two reasons: the arrival of matured Tessa money looking for a new home, and the chance of a demutualisation or takeover windfall.

The "carpetbagging" was done more on an institutional basis rather than by private investors — putting £100 into a building society on a speculative basis is quite different from putting tens of thousands into an endowment policy.

If someone were to buy a with-profits policy speculatively, they would have to be very careful because the performance of the underlying funds can vary hugely from company to company. Your terminal payment could suffer and the gap could be much more than the sums produced by an unearned mid-policy windfall.

The institutional interest saw an investment trust — the Life Office Opportunities Trust — set up specifically to buy policies from companies likely to pay one of these bonuses. However, the surging demand led to something of a logjam in the first half of the year, with traded policy prices rising 10 per cent from December 1995 to the end of May 1996, according to one estimate. The increase led Max Rosen, head of Securitised Endowment Contracts, a market-maker, to suggest prices were too high.

Speculators need to be careful — large sums are involved

The Norwich Union announcement will mean its policies will no longer be the target of speculative trading. To qualify for a share payment, policyholders had to be in possession at midnight on October 1, 1996, so the door has been closed on any slow-moving carpetbaggers who wanted a piece of the action.

But these superficially eligible policyholders could trip up on one clause. The policy cannot be eligible for a full share of the handout if it expires before the members vote on the proposed change to the insurer's status. The ballot date is not yet decided. Undoubtedly, the worst course of action would be for someone to surrender their policy to the life office before the vote. They would be getting an uncompetitive return on the original investment while also throwing away their stake of the windfall shares.

If with-profits policyholders are certain to satisfy the relevant criteria — if their endowment policy has several years to run, for instance, and they were in posession on October 1 — they are in a much stronger position than building society members waiting for a payout. This is because the endowment policies can be sold before the vote, without the holder's membership being compromised. They will still receive the shares.

That, and the fact that Norwich Union policies are often very competitive, should ensure that trading won't tail off. And there are plenty of other life offices tipped for takeover or demutualisation — including Scottish Amicable, Scottish Life, Scottish Provident, Friends Provident and Scottish Widows — to ensure that turnover will remain high.

Christopher Dobie, of Beale Dobie, the market-makers, believes that the turnover of traded policies could exceed £200 million this year, compared with a previous estimate of £175 million. But he says policies worth £500 million a year are still being surrendered directly to life offices, providing plenty of room for further expansion of trading. Mr Dobie says the possibility of a bonus has not affected the price of traded policies because it is impossible to predict how much any shareout would be worth. Any projected value simply is not factored in.

COMMENT

ANNE ASHWORTH

Personal Finance Editor

Losers in the lottery

Tonight millions will await the outcome of the 100th National Lottery draw. The disappointment felt by those whose numbers are not read out by beaming Bob Monkhouse will be tempered by the knowledge that their luck might be better next week.

Those who lose out in the annuity lottery have no such consolation. They have unwittingly entered a game of chance where the already unfavourable odds can be further manipulated to the disadvantage of the player. The system does not allow replays.

Those with personal pensions must, on retirement, buy an annuity from which their pension will be paid. Immediately they are in double jeopardy, for the deal they receive will depend not only on whether they are well-informed enough to shop around, but also on the general level of interest rates.

Now, as we report on page 27, it emerges that the fate of the personal pension plan holder is also subject to the whims of marketing men at life insurers. Sales of pensions and other policies have been so good this year that some companies have taken the view that they do not need annuity business and have dropped their rates to deter purchasers.

Any company taking this view ought to be obliged to tell its own personal pension customers that they could do better with one of its competitors. But, sadly for anyone retiring between now and Christmas, no such rule exists.

Tax report

ELIZABETH FILKIN, the Inland Revenue Adjudicator, is proving herself to be a feisty consumer champion, fearless in the defence of the taxpayer. This week, in her third report, she accused the tax authorities of "incompetence, insensitivity and indifference".

Her stance should provide some reassurance to the millions now faced with the rigours of the self-assessment system, with its draconian deadlines and steep penalties for late returns.

For as long as tax inspectors believe that their job means never having to say they're sorry, we will need Mrs Filkin.

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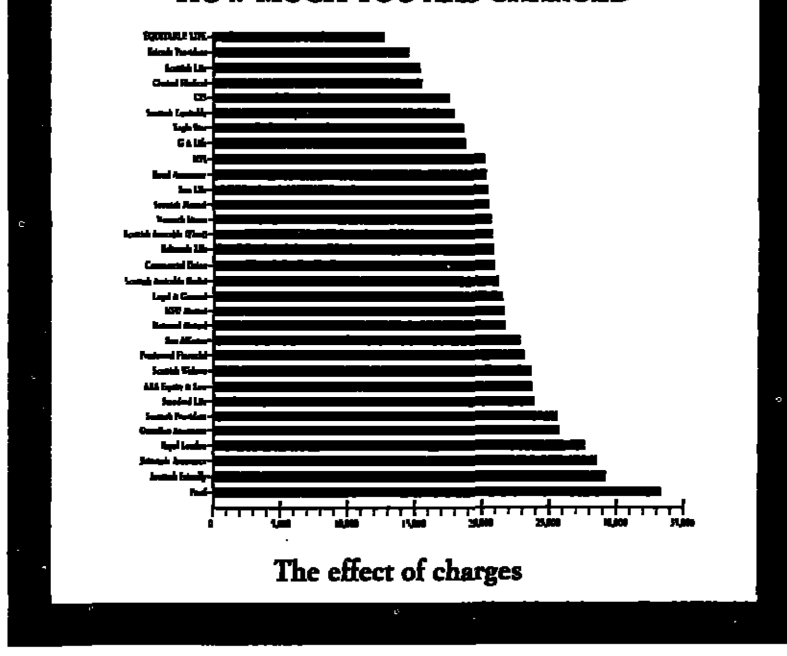

The effect of charges

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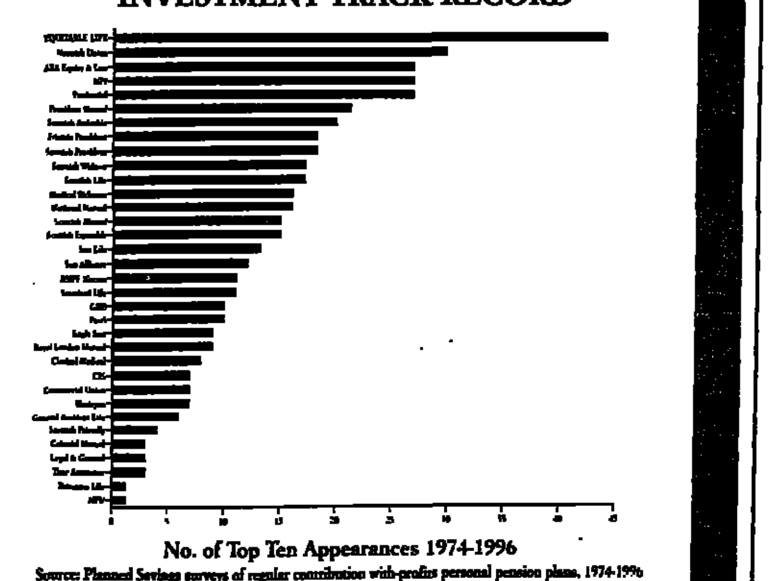

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ROBIN MAYES

On the ball: Rory Underwood, England rugby international, helps Virgin Direct demonstrate the need for insurance

Genetics cast a shadow

Caroline Merrell on life insurance risk factors

The game of international rugby carries with it a multitude of risks. A player could break an arm, a leg, or even his neck. However, the level of risk is identifiable and quantifiable. Most insurers would be able to devise a premium which adequately reflects any danger to the player.

For most other people though, the propensity for falling prey to or dying from a serious disease is less easy to analyse. Life insurance companies ask prospective clients a series of questions about their age, occupation, lifestyle, family, and medical history. From this they can calculate a premium which will adequately reflect the risk involved.

However, over the last few years, a more highly tuned tool has become available, which will allow doctors to predict who is going to get what disease. Genetic testing is now already carried out for a number of life-threatening diseases such as Huntingdon's and cystic fibrosis.

Testing to pinpoint the likelihood of getting certain diseases such as breast cancer or heart disease is still in its infancy as a diagnostic tool. However, its usefulness in underwriting in life insurance cannot be ignored, especially as competition between companies over rates begins to increase. Independent financial advisers claim that rates are already beginning to fall because of the arrival of direct insurers such as Direct Line and Virgin Direct.

A tool which could definitely knock out high-risk lives could be even more useful for insurers in the rates war. Next month, the Association of British Insurers will produce guidelines about how genetic information should be used.

Standard Life, the UK's biggest insurer, has already pre-empted publication of the guidelines by stating that it will not force people to disclose the results of genetic tests when taking out term assurance to cover a mortgage.

Peter Robertson, Standard Life assistant general manager, said: "Having to divulge the results of genetic tests causes some concern both to the applicant and to the medical profession. Some people may be put off such tests for fear that they become uninsurable if the results show a disease.

Rowan Gormley, Virgin Direct managing director, believes genetic testing will not have much impact on rates. He said: "It will not increase competition, because true competition does not exist in the market place at the moment." He highlights the difference between the rates offered by the top and bottom-performing companies.

According to the financial adviser, Term Direct, the lowest term insurance premiums for a 32-year-old non-smoking male requiring £100,000 of cover were offered by Virgin Direct, Legal & General, Norwich Union, Allied Dunbar and Scottish Mutual. Rates were between £15.67 and £17.15. The most expensive companies were Clerical Medical, Scottish Amicable, Lloyds Bank, Friends Provident and Swiss Life. Rates at this end of the spectrum were between £24.32 and £32.

Others believe that testing could eventually lead to sections of the population becoming uninsurable.

The Government, geneticists and the medical lobby are trying to hammer out a way of treating information before genetic testing becomes more prevalent for controlling certain disorders. If the industry does not create a suitable system, then the Government can legislate to prevent the companies having any access at all to the results.

Last year, the select committee on science and technology debated the use of genetic testing. The committee initially wanted life insurance companies not to have any access to genetic information. However, it eventually accepted the view that companies should be protected against people who find they have high-risk genes, then over-insure themselves but withhold the genetic information from the life insurer.

Paul Cooper, Mercantile & General Reinsurance chief underwriter, said: "It should not be seen as different from any other sort of information. It will just identify who is more at risk."

The Association of British Insurers is lobbying for accessibility to genetic information, but it insists that the life companies have no plans to ask potential policy holders to take genetic tests before they take out a policy.

The Genetic Interest Group, an umbrella organisation representing those with genetic disorders, is willing to concede that companies should have access to information, but believes policy holders should be given detailed reasons why they face loaded premiums, and should be able to appeal.

John Gillott, policy officer, said: "Insurance companies will behave like insurance companies. They are commercial organisations, and do not want any regulation of their accessibility to information."

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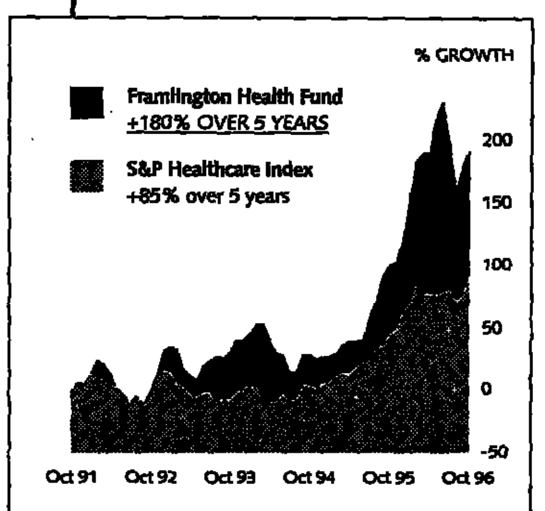

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هكذا وجد الأصل

Warning for new wave of landlords

Sara McConnell finds the letting market home to many problems

A rich untapped seam of potential landlords was uncovered this week as thousands of people contacted letting agents and lenders who are offering cheap mortgages on properties bought to let.

Lenders and agents say they are "happily surprised" by the huge response to the Buy to Let scheme, featured in *The Times* last week. The revival of the property market has brought a renewed interest in buying property to let.

For many people letting out property will be a relatively trouble-free way of earning income. Low mortgage rates and still low prices mean high rental yields.

Under the Buy to Let scheme, launched by the Association of Residential Letting Agents (Arla) and lenders including the Woolwich, the Halifax, Homeloans Direct, Mortgage Express and Lloyds TSB, people buying homes to let can have loans without paying commercial rates of interest or surcharges. Arla says it received more than 2,000 calls in a week about the scheme, while lenders received more than 7,000.

But anyone thinking of letting property must be cautious, the Small Landlords Association cautions. It is a "high stake" business with as much as one letting in every 20 resulting in disputes between landlord and tenant. The SLA says: "Letting can provide a good income if you are prepared for a hands-on approach."

Gareth Hardwick, secretary of the Small Landlords Association, says: "Some people don't realise what's at stake. They are dealing with high value assets, their property. This is a high stake activity insofar that if things go wrong they go wrong badly. Landlords often fail to follow up references or take professional advice and leave the property to get on with itself".

The Government has made it clear that it wants a revival of the private rented sector. New rules under the Housing Act 1996 to be implemented next January are intended to make repossession easier for landlords.

They will also simplify the initial paperwork in order to protect landlords from unwittingly saddling themselves with a sitting tenant, as is possible currently.

From January new lettings agreements will automatically be assured shorthold tenancies, which allow the landlord to repossess after a minimum of six months. Previously, under the Housing Act 1988, failure to serve the relevant notices properly at the beginning could mean a tenant had security of tenure under an assured tenancy.

According to Robert Orr-Ewing, head of the residential lettings division at Knight Frank, the estate agents, people who go abroad to work and rent out their property are among those who most often fall foul of the rules and find themselves unable to get their property back on returning.

Shelter and other tenants' groups have attacked the new rules which they fear will lead to less security for tenants. Shelter argues there was no need to change the rules as landlords can already grant assured shorthold tenancies if they serve the right notices. Many tenants could face earlier repossession because of administrative delays in paying housing benefit, the charity says. Under the 1996 Act, landlords can start possession proceedings if a tenant is two months or more in arrears, instead of three as now.

Landlords' claim that the new rules will encourage more to enter the letting market. But Mr Hardwick emphasises that the changes will in many cases give landlords little or no protection, arguing that slow court procedures drag out possession actions for months, while tenants continue to live in the property rent-free.

☐ *Arla Buy to Let helpline: (01923) 896555. Small Landlords Association: 0181-780 9954.*

Amanda Loose on the Buy-to-Let scheme helping individuals to invest in property

Door opens for landlords

Weekend Money last week

Legal fees to have awkward tenants evicted have cost Chris Palmer and his mother £2,000 so far, plus lost rent

The tenants who will not go

Chris Palmer's mother has been letting out rooms in a house in north London since the 1960s. The seven rooms were let to a succession of nurses, students and other tenants who paid weekly rent and quarterly bills regularly and caused no trouble.

Since last summer though, Mr Palmer, a taxi driver, has been fighting constant legal battles on behalf of his mother to evict two of her three remaining tenants. So far, the two have cost the Palmers £2,000 in legal fees and more than £1,000 in lost rent. They are still occupying their two rooms, paying no rent and showing no signs of moving out. The case is not back in court for another month.

Mr Palmer started possession proceedings in July this year on the ground that the tenants were more than three months in arrears with their rent. Under the 1988 Housing Act, such arrears are a mandatory ground for repossession for both assured and assured shorthold tenancies.

The Palmers' tenants had assured tenancies. But the courts, apparently ignoring the law, failed to grant mandatory possession and instead adjourned the case, giving the tenants 28 days to pay.

On the last possible payment date, July 29, the tenants paid the outstanding rent up to the beginning of July and put in a counter-claim, alleging that Mr Palmer was harassing them for the rent. A further hearing in September gave the tenants three weeks to clear their arrears but Mr Palmer has received nothing since July 1.

Mr Palmer says: "The council and the courts seem to bend over backwards to help the tenants. My mother is 77 and she's only charging £40 a week rent."

Mr Palmer will advise his mother to give up letting.

Wearing battle in the courts

When Michael Pringle retired from the Navy, he decided to invest in property for rent which he hoped would generate additional income.

He bought and did up three houses. But he has spent the last year fighting three of his tenants through the courts after they stopped paying rent and disconnected meter-controlled electrical appliances in the property.

The whole experience has shaken him. He says: "I reckon I'm fairly well organised but I was shaken when it turned all sour. I was at my wits' end with the court procedures."

Mr Pringle's problems started in February last year when three of the tenants, a couple and a single woman, dismantled meters on communal electrical appliances and connected the appliances to the main supply. The rent included electricity, gas, and heating but use of the washing machine and shower was metered. The single woman then disappeared owing six weeks' rent.

Mr Pringle issued a summons in the small claims court for the £220 he says he was owed. The tenant counter-claimed for £1,000 she said she had spent on using the washing machine and other appliances.

It was not until January this year that the courts ruled that she should pay Mr Pringle £300 at £50 a month. He has just received the final payment.

The other two tenants had paid no rent for two months when Mr Pringle took them to court in March 1995. They now owe a total of £2,000 including payments for electricity, over which they and Mr Pringle have finally settled out of court. But he is still owed money. He says: "I shouldn't be out of pocket. Every penny will be recovered."

SARA MCCONNELL

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HSBC Asian
HSBC GIF Chinese Equity, Hong Kong Equity, Singapore Equity
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GT China, India, Orient
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GENERAL INFORMATION

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Paragon of virtue suffers blind spot

FINANCIAL FITNESS TEST

Fiona Bawdon on the need for careful planning to ensure family security

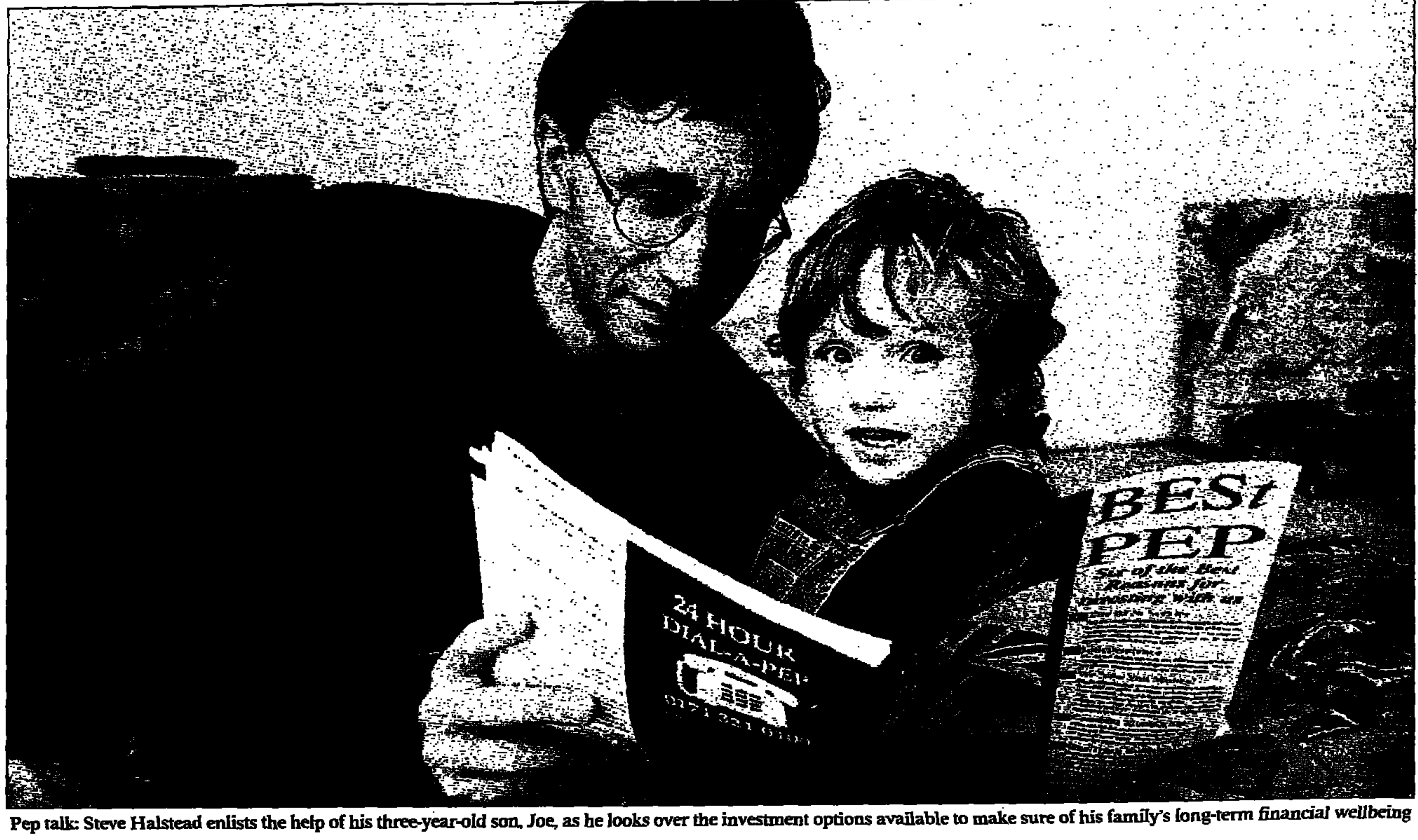
AT FIRST glance, sending 35-year-old Steve Halstead for a Weekend Money makeover is a bit like suggesting Coco Chanel might have needed the services of an image consultant.

Mr Halstead is in an enviable financial situation, achieved largely through his own financial acumen and planning. He has a well-paid job as a manager with a major UK company, where he has worked for the last ten years. His total salary package, which includes various bonuses and generous perks, comes to more than £30,000.

Out of this he manages to save at least £5,000 a year ("I'm too busy working to spend any money"). He holds around £10,000 worth of shares in the company for which he works — acquired at preferential rates over the years — and also has substantial savings.

Mr Halstead and his partner, a freelance writer, have an £80,000 mortgage on a house worth nearly double that amount. Later this year, when the mortgage reverts from a fixed rate to a variable rate, he intends to use some of his savings to reduce the loan by about half. He has no overdraft and no credit card debts.

PAUL REVEZ



Pep talk: Steve Halstead enlists the help of his three-year-old son, Joe, as he looks over the investment options available to make sure of his family's long-term financial wellbeing

Mark Bolland, an independent financial adviser at Chamberlain de Broe, described Mr Halstead as exceptionally financially astute. What, then, is such a paragon of financial virtue doing sitting in Mr Bolland's office for a money makeover? The answer is that Mr Halstead is astute enough to know that even the most financially sophisticated may have a blind spot — which, in his case, could have potentially disastrous consequences. Mr Halstead and his partner have a three-year-old son, Joe, and a second baby due at Christmas.

What he does not have, however, is any life insurance — apart from a Standard Life endowment, which would pay off half the current mortgage in the event of his death. "It's not an area I know anything about," said Mr Halstead. He had always assumed that his savings and investments of around £60,000 and his company death-in-service benefit of three times his salary "would leave a fairly substantial amount".

However, it soon started to appear rather less substantial under Mr Bolland's scrutiny. Mr Bolland calculated that the endowment, savings and company benefit would provide a total of a little more than £200,000. Once the £80,000 mortgage was paid off, this would leave £145,000. "That sort of money invested would generate £5,500 to £6,000 a year gross," said Mr Bolland. "In a true widows and orphans situation you wouldn't normally try to generate a return of more than 5 to 6 per cent because the money has to be protected."

Mr Bolland added that, because the couple are not married, Mr Halstead's partner might not qualify for a state widows pension. Although the DSS can use its discretion, there is no guarantee she would receive anything. "If she won't definitely get it, you have to plan on the basis that she wouldn't," says Mr Bolland.

Would Mr Halstead be happy about leaving his young family with an income of around only £6,000 a year? If not, life insurance should be a priority. The cheapest option would be a ten-year convertible term policy. Around £200,000 worth of cover — which would pay out on the death of Mr Halstead or his partner — would cost less than £50 a month. Mr Halstead's situation highlights the nebulous legal status of couples who are not married. While there is nothing he and his partner can do about the idiosyncracies of the DSS, they have protected themselves to a large extent by having wills that leave everything to each other.

Mr Bolland said that the foresight to make wills is rare for people in their thirties. He admits: "When I was in the Civil Service 12 or 13 years ago, we were given a lecture on the importance of making a will. I finally got around to making mine about six weeks ago."

It seems that people still have an unshakeable faith in the idea of common law marriage and the myth that once couples have cohabited for a certain amount of time they automatically acquire the same rights as married couples — they don't. Without a will, Mr Halstead's partner would have no automatic claim on his estate, regardless of the length of time they had lived together or the number of their children.

Responsibility for a wife and children means that quality life insurance should be a priority

Falling under a bus is not, however, the only eventuality which Mr Halstead needs to plan against. The sector in which he works is, as a whole, in the process of shedding staff. He is acutely aware that, despite a ten-year employment record, he may not be immune from such job cuts. If he were to be made redundant, it could have a dramatic impact on his financial health. He would not only lose his salary, but a shopping list of other benefits — death in service, private healthcare, income protection, final salary pension, save as you earn schemes — which would cost several hundred pounds a month to pay for privately.

Mr Halstead does not know what he might want to do next if he left his company. He might work for another employer or possibly set up on his own. But what he does know is that he wants to organise his finances now to ensure that all his options are open in the future.

According to Mr Bolland, what he needs is is "cash cushion". Going ahead as planned and paying off around half the mortgage would go a long way to achieving this, he says. "The way house prices are going, he would be building up quite a lot of equity which he could borrow against if he wanted to set up his own business. It would reduce monthly outgoings, which could be particularly useful around the time of the birth when his partner may not be earning very much. And he could use the surplus money to start building up savings again."

The other area which Mr Halstead wanted advice about was his pension provision. Should he be paying additional voluntary contributions (AVCs), rather than relying solely on his company's final salary scheme? Or was he right to keep putting his money — currently around £20,000 — into Peps?

Mr Bolland said that Mr Halstead's current strategy is basically sound, although when finances allow he should think about beefing up his overall pension provision. "It can be better to take a twin-track approach to retirement planning — to have two pots both performing in different ways. I'm not one of these people who says you've always got to use all your pension entitlement."

The other benefit of Peps over AVCs — even free-standing AVCs — is that they are far more flexible. With the current wave of redundancies in Mr Halstead's industry, and the possibility that he might start his own business, this flexibility could be a real advantage. Mr Bolland says: "I would have said you should look at an AVC if you had told me that until you retire or drop you were going to be a company man."

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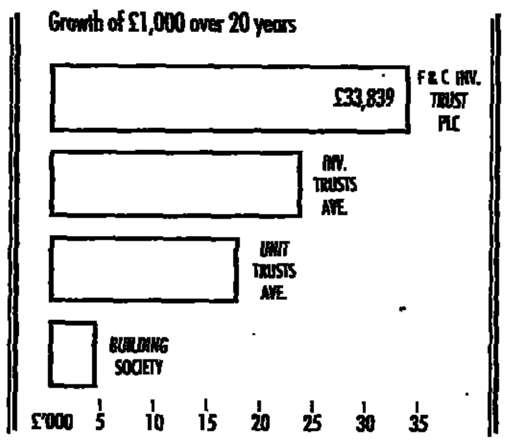

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Insurance can ease financial burden of illness, says **Sarah Jones**

Caring for women with cancer

UNIVERSAL

Eva Herzigova is campaigning for breast cancer awareness

The sight of pink ribbons on lapels means that it's breast cancer awareness month again, the start of the annual campaign for early detection of the disease which this week will kill 300 women. As many as 26,000 women each year discover that they have the disease — and 15,000 of them die.

The campaign, which this year includes Eva Herzigova, the former Wonderbra model, as one of its supporters, it comes at a time when insurers are looking to sell ever more critical illness plans.

HEALTH INSURANCE

There are a few insurance policies which specifically cover breast cancer. LadyShield from Stuart Harvey insurance brokers pays £10,000 on diagnosis of breast or cervical cancer. There is a further £5,000 if a mastectomy is required, and £5,000 if the insured dies within a year of diagnosis. Premiums are low, ranging from £26 a year for a 30-year-old, to a maximum of £62 a year if you are over 55.

However, the policy excludes some of the most obvious candidates — women who have had two or more members of their immediate family suffer from breast or cervical cancer.

Pinnacle Insurance's Viva policy pays £10,000 on diagnosis of breast or cervical cancer, with a further £6,000 spread over 12 months. Premiums range from £84 a year to £216 a year depending on age. Eligibility may be affected by a family history of breast cancer.

LadyPlan, underwritten by Lloyd's of London, offers two levels of benefit. The standard cover pays out £15,000, with a further £12,000 spread over 12 months. Premiums are from £129 a year to £372 a year. There is an additional premium for women with a family history of breast and cervical cancer. The additional premium is £144 if the relation is mother or sister, and £72 if it is an aunt or grandmother.

"Breast cancer-only policies are expensive for what they are," says Yvonne Rose of Diane Saunders, the independent financial advisers. "You would be better off paying slightly more and getting a better product; that is one that covers you for more illnesses."

Ms Rose advises a two-pronged attack in coping with serious illness: permanent health insurance (PHI) to cover loss of earnings if you need to take time off work, and critical illness insurance to cover mortgage payments, changes to accommodation or childcare costs.

Women with a family history of breast cancer may have some difficulty getting general critical illness cover. At Zurich Life, for example, your eligibility is not affected if your mother, sister or grandmother had breast cancer after the age of 50. But if two or more members of your family suffered under the age of 50, there will be a premium loading of 50 per cent. Zurich's Lifestyle Security Plan pays out £25,000 on diagnosis and, for a 35-year-old non-smoker, costs £159 a year.

Too much insurance can damage your wealth

Helen Pridham steers you past the pitfalls of having a policy too many

If you have taken out insurance to provide an income during a period of ill-health that stops you working, the last thing you want is your claim to be turned down, or cut back. But this can arise if you are held to be "overinsured" — where the benefits payable under your policy turn out to be higher than the maximum allowable percentage of your income when you come to claim.

Insurers impose this restriction to ensure that claimants still have an incentive to return to work when they recover. The issue was highlighted by the recent Office of Fair Trading report into health insurance.

If you are held to be overinsured, your benefit will be cut, which means a proportion of your premiums will have been wasted. You will have paid for benefits you cannot receive. The problem is widespread. It has been reported that 30 to 40 per cent of PHI claimants have their benefits reduced to some degree for this reason.

Nowadays companies typically limit benefits to a maximum of 50 to 65 per cent of your pre-disability income, less other benefits available from employers or the state. Previously the limit was 75 per cent but after PHI benefits were made tax free in April, it was reduced. It means, for example, that if your income is currently £20,000, after the deduction of the annual single person's state incapacity benefit of around £3,000, the maximum amount of income you could insure would be 65 per cent of £17,000, that is £11,050. If your income were £18,000, your maximum benefit would reduce to £9,750.

MAIN CAUSES OF PHI CLAIMS

	Male %	Female %
Musculo-skeletal (back pain,etc.)	44.0	37.0
Mental Illness (Including Chronic Fatigue Syndrome)	18.0	32.5
Heart Disorders and Stroke	11.5	3.5
Cancer	7.5	8.5
Neurological and Sense Organs	5.0	5.0
Other	14.0	13.5

Source: Swiss Re

Over-insurance can be due to several factors including over-enthusiastic salesmen, and escalating benefits, which rise faster than the policyholder's own income. However, Kevin Pearce of PHI insurer, Allied Dunbar, says: "The main problems tend to arise with the self-employed: Their earnings can fluctuate and there can also be confusion over what counts as income, their gross profits or their declared income to the taxman." The latter, which is what we have to go on, can be considerably lower than the former. Problems usually only come to light when a claim is made because it is normally only then that evidence of income must be provided.

Swiss Life is one of the few companies that asks for evidence upfront. However, after criticism in the OFT report, more insurers are considering ways of tackling over-insurance and companies like Allied Dunbar are starting to warn policyholders each year when they renew their insurance that they should review their benefits and reduce them if necessary.

Some PHI claimants do not even get a reduced benefit. It is difficult to get hold of the exact number of claims that are turned down. But Karen Lloyd, claims manager at Swiss Re, a leading reinsurer of PHI business, disputes the figure of 25 per cent cited in the OFT report. She says: "In our experience, around 10 per cent of claims are rejected. The main reason is non-disclosure. If it is discovered that people have deliberately withheld information about a relevant condition, then a claim will be refused. The other main reason that claims are rejected is because the disability criterion has not been met."

Most insurers define disability as your *total* inability to follow your own occupation, others define it as your inability to follow your own occupation or "any reasonably suitable occupation".

Disputes often arise about whether a condition renders someone "totally unable" to do a job or not. Unless a condition is very serious, an insurer may argue that the policyholder can still perform certain aspects of their job. According to Ms Lloyd: "Much will depend on how fundamental to your job is the activity or activities which you no longer perform."

However, the OFT was sufficiently concerned about the lack of clarity that it called upon insurers to produce a standard definition of "total disability" and the Association of British Insurers (ABI) is currently working on this.

Even if your insurer accepts your claim initially, disputes may arise later. PHI is designed to tide you over until you get better and can start working again. If you do not recover benefits will continue until retirement, but this situation is the exception rather than the rule. At Allied Dunbar, Kevin Pearce says benefits are paid for an average of 18 months.

If you show signs of recovery, insurers will encourage you to restart work on a part-time basis initially. They will normally top up your income with a "rehabilitation" benefit until you are fit to resume full duties or for, say, 12 months. If you are not able to go back to your old occupation but take a lower paid job instead, a "proportionate" benefit may be paid indefinitely to reduce the gap in earnings between your old and new job.

Mr Pearce says: "Problems arise when people partially recover or become fit again but there is no job for them to go back to. They often feel we should go on paying them a benefit but we have to point out that we are not there to provide unemployment benefit."

PHI policyholders who are not satisfied that they have been treated properly by their insurer can take their complaint to the PIA Ombudsman. Like the Insurance Ombudsman, the PIA Ombudsman can make awards of up to £20,000 per annum in respect of PHI policies.

The PIA Ombudsman can be contacted on 0171 216 0016.

If you are held to be overinsured your benefit will be cut

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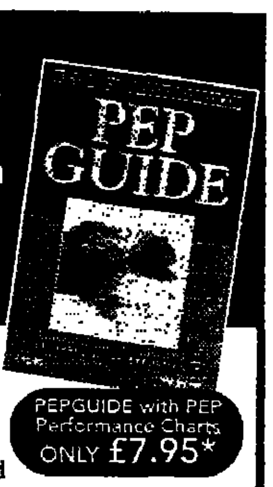

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Noel Fung and **Caroline Merrell** on faith in an Asian boom

Full of Eastern promise

ROBIN LAURANCE

Tide is turning: Portfolio Fund Management is hoping to catch some of the recovery on the Thailand stock market

In the belief that the Asian markets are about to boom, Portfolio Fund Management is launching an Asian fund that will invest in what it claims are the best managed unit trusts in the Far East.

The Portfolio Asia Fund will be managed by Richard Timberlake, who is also chairman of Fund Research, the unit trust performance analysis business. The fund will invest in 25 funds from 15 of the leading Far Eastern fund managers. Mr Timberlake said: "The standard of fund management in the Far East is very good. There are about 30 of the 83 fund management groups we would consider. We chose 15 of them."

The fund's initial portfolio will include three funds from Fidelity, three from Schroder, four from HSBC and five from Invesco. The rest will be divided among other funds from investment houses such as Perpetual, GT, Templeton and Morgan Grenfell. Jardine Fleming, the well known Asian investment house, which would usually have figured among the managers, has been excluded. Jardine Fleming recently received a £700,000 fine from the Investment Management Regulatory Organisation (Imro), the fund managers' watchdog.

Biggest portion of fund will be invested on Hong Kong market

Geographically, by far the biggest portion of the fund will be invested in companies quoted on the Hong Kong market. Mr Timberlake said: "This is really a play on China. Direct investment in China is still relatively underdeveloped." The Chinese market rose around 45 per cent during the first nine months of this year, while Hong Kong rose 10 per cent over the same period.

Some 5 per cent or more of the fund will be in each of the markets of Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand, Taiwan and Korea. Mr Timberlake said: "Thailand and Korea have been at the bottom over the last two years; we are trying to catch some of the recovery."

Portfolio believes that Asian markets have been depressed compared with markets in the UK, US and Europe. It thinks that growth, backed by strong economic fundamentals, will soon be renewed.

Mr Timberlake has spent the last few months interviewing 44 Far Eastern fund managers to find out which ones to use. He said: "I have done a huge amount of research in picking the best funds."

Analysts claim that stock in Asian markets is now much cheaper than it was two years ago. But they point out that the Asian economies are very vulnerable to changes in US interest rates, and countries such as Thailand and Korea are subject to political risk.

Ian Millward of Chase de Vere, the financial advisers, was also sceptical. He commented: "The fund will give investors a huge spread of investments. However, it may be a case of spreading the risk to ridiculous proportions. There is also going to be an element of double charging. Will the performance of the fund outweigh all the extra charges?"

The minimum investment in the Asian fund is £1,000. There will be discounts of up to 3 per cent in the initial offer. A 1 per cent discount will apply to investments between £3,000 and £9,999, a 2 per cent discount will apply for investments between £10,000 and £24,999, and a 3 per cent discount will apply for investments of more than £25,000. The initial charge is 6 per cent and the annual charge is 1.5 per cent.

Pep joy on shares from flotations

SOCIETY WATCH

Building society members who receive free shares when their society becomes a bank will be able to put these windfalls into a personal equity plan (Pep) without reducing their annual allowance (Gavin Lumsden writes).

Four societies, the Halifax, Woolwich, Alliance & Leicester and Northern Rock will lose their traditional mutual status next year, distributing free shares to qualifying investors and borrowers. The average payout from each society will be about £1,000. However, some investors with larger balances will pocket as much as £7,000-£8,000 worth of free shares. The Inland Revenue has confirmed that, so long as investors do not pay for the shares, they can be transferred to a Pep with zero value. This means that a building society member who receives £1,500 worth of free shares could start a general Pep and still be allowed to shelter the maximum £6,000 in the same plan in the same tax year. An investor who already has a general Pep could put the shares inside the plan even if the maximum £6,000 is already invested.

An Inland Revenue spokesman said: "If the shares cost you nothing, they do not count against the subscription limit. If you are lucky enough to have four building societies which convert in the same tax year, then you can put all these shares into a Pep."

Alternatively, the building society member could house the shares in a single-company Pep, where the annual limit is £3,000, although any additional investments would have to be in the converted building society's shares.

This unexpectedly generous gesture from the Revenue has actually been enshrined in its Pep rules since 1990. However, it has only come to light with the recent acquisition of National and Provincial Building Society (N&P) by Abbey National.

Ordinarily, the rules state, investors can only subscribe to a Pep by paying cash to a plan manager who then invests it in equities. However, there are two exceptions. Investors can use shares as part of their Pep subscription when they have been obtained in public offers or in the transfer of the whole of the business of a building society to a successor company. This was the case in the takeover of the N&P.

When more than 600,000 N&P members received an average of £1,400 of Abbey National shares in August free, the Pep Managers Association (Pepma) asked the Revenue if investors could transfer an infinite number of these shares to their Peps because they had not paid for them. Amazingly, the Revenue said yes.

Unfortunately for millions of life policyholders, demutualised life company shares are not currently eligible under the Pep rules. Norwich Union, which announced its plans last week, is lobbying for a change.

• In the chart on page 9 of this week's guide to Personal Equity Plans the column headings from column seven should read as follows: six months, one year, two years, three years, five years, ten years.

In the table at the bottom of page 16, the entry for the Virgin Pep should read All-Share Tracker.

Mike Blackburn of the Halifax, which is becoming a bank

Short-term bonds race ahead

Sarah Jones joins the big rush

That Bradford & Bingley's Millennium Bond, giving 7.25 per cent fixed for three years, was snapped up in just ten days while five-year bonds are hanging around unfilled indicates the mood savers are in. They have taken to short-termism in a big way. And aware of this the societies are pumping out the products.

This week the Derbyshire launched a two-year bond with a fixed rate of 6.75 per cent gross a year. Minimum balance is £5,000 and there is a monthly option giving 6.55 per cent. The Coventry has a three-year bond paying 7.3 per cent a year, or a monthly rate of 7.05 per cent. The minimum investment is £1,000 and withdrawals are subject to a penalty of 180 days' interest.

On Wednesday Birmingham Midshires launches a one-year bond paying 6.3 per cent on balances from £5,000 to £50,000 and 6.5 per cent on more than £50,000. For a two-year term the rates are 6.6 and 6.8 per cent respectively. This is hard to beat.

Those with £100,000 to invest can get 7 per cent for two years from the Britannia. For those willing to go slightly over the term, the Yorkshire offers 6.6 per cent on £5,000 up to March 1998, while the Northern Rock's Deposit Bond pays 6.75 per cent on a minimum £2,500 until December 1998.

Meanwhile, other providers are changing their rates on existing fixed products, and short-term rates are up while long-term rates are down.

For example, with the Halifax Guaranteed Reserve, the six-month rate is up from 5 to 5.25 per cent and the one-year rate up from 5.5 to 5.65 per cent, while the three-year rate is down from 6.9 to 6.65 per cent. Similar movement is being seen in Guaranteed Income Bonds from the insurance companies.

Christine Bayliss of *MoneyFacts* says: "There is so much speculation on which way base rates are going that savers want to tie themselves in for only a short term.

"They are wary of locking themselves in for five years because they could lose out in the last few years of the term," she says.

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Choosing the right mix of alco-stocks is important, says **Matthew Wall**

Sober judgment required to invest in drinks sector

SECTOR IN FOCUS

With the "feel-good" factor finally slinking back to the high street, champagne sales now emulating the heady days of the Eighties, and leisure spending creeping upwards, a select cocktail of drinks industry stocks should put some fizz into investors' portfolios.

The drinks sector includes large spirits and wine producers such as Guinness, Allied Domecq and Grand Metropolitan, and small pub retailers such as Surrey Free Inns, listed on the Alternative Investment Market (AIM).

But beware: indiscriminate mixing of drinks stocks can give the unwary a hangover. Investors in Matthew Clark, the cider-maker, know only too well how quickly a bubbly stock can turn flat. After a profits warning last month, Clark's share price halved and analysts slashed £20 million from profits forecasts.

Peter Aikens, Clark's chief executive, blames the catastrophic drop in sales of Diamond White and K, its premium bottled cider brands, on the explosive growth of alcoholic fruit-flavoured drinks, or "alcopops".

But institutions are furious because Aikens assured them that all was well just days before the profits warning. And its rival cider-maker, HP Bulmer, seems to have weathered the alcopops storm, leaving a question mark over Clark's management.

Indiscriminate mixing can give unwary investors a hangover

The pub-retailing sector has rocketed after the Government's Beer Orders in 1991 attempted to lessen the ties between brewing and pub retailing. J. D. Wetherspoon, the managed pub company, has blazed a trail. Its share price of around £11.50 is nearly double its level of a year ago.

The Magic Pub Company also cashed in when Greene King snapped it up for £80 million earlier this year.

The alcopops market has grown from nothing to a £300 million turnover industry in less than two years, with two brands, Hooper's Hooch, made by Bass, and Two Dogs, made by Merrydown, leading the field. There are now more than 100 brands. But if investors think alcopop makers are good for a punt, they should bear in mind that the overall drinks market is static, if not in decline.

Surveying the big players, Alex Oldroyd, leisure analyst at Morgan Stanley, believes the market is underrating Allied Domecq's retail and spirits brands. Allied recently sold its 50 per cent stake in Carlsberg-Tetley to Bass for £200 million, subject to regulatory approval, abandoning brewing for its other businesses. Oldroyd says: "The downside for Allied is now limited given that the spirits division has been restructured and its new management should turn it around. The Carlsberg-Tetley deal is a good clean-up of a bad mess, too. I recommend a buy."

Another favourite stock is Grand Metropolitan, whose spirits arm, International Distillers and Vintners, has world-leading brands such as Smirnoff vodka and Bailey's Irish Cream. GrandMet is selling off non-core businesses and concentrating on its existing portfolio of brands.

Although the spirits market is declining in mature Western markets, Oldroyd believes those companies which can get the most value out of their brands, rather than the most volume, could still make a killing. And there are plenty of opportunities in the emerging economies, such as India, China and Malaysia.

The worldwide decline in spirits has led to speculation that mergers among the big players are inevitable. Indeed Guinness has carried out a feasibility study on a takeover of GrandMet, which most analysts have dismissed as highly unlikely.

On a smaller scale, Highland Distillers, owner of Famous Grouse, and its partner Suntory, the Japanese spirits giant, snapped up Macallan-Glenlivet for £88 million.

Industry experts are predicting further consolidation in the sector, with only two other whisky companies, Glenmorangie and Burn Stewart, listed on the stock market. Glenmorangie is family controlled but has made no secret of its wish to go more public. Canny investors could do worse than target these two and Highland itself, as potential takeover targets.

Cheers all round: the return of better times in the drinks industry makes it a tempting investment prospect

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Adam Jones on the options at Lloyd's as profits return

Names in the money and back in the game

CRISPIN RODWELL

Lord Mountcharles: settlement means he can revive long-delayed projects

The nail-biting finale to the Lloyd's of London recovery has obscured one blunt fact. People have made money from the insurance market this year and now they have to decide what to do with it.

It is hard to look beyond the £8 billion losses that Lloyd's made between 1987 and 1992, but the three subsequent years were lucrative. The profit for 1993, shared out only this year since Lloyd's works three years in arrears, was a record £1 billion. Profits for 1994 and 1995 should be £1 billion and £880 million. As a result, about 12,000 names — the people who underwrite the insurance market's deals — will receive cheques rather than bills as part of the reconstruction package.

For thousands, the money will not nearly cover losses — but a cheque is still a cheque. Some recipients, like the Earl of Mountcharles, can now revive long-delayed projects. The Irish aristocrat is one of the names who paid all his debts to Lloyd's and continued underwriting after 1992. In his finality statement he can expect £44,000 — his share of 1993's excellent results minus his final payments for Lloyd's reconstruction. The figure is much less important than the knowledge that he will be getting no more bills for the period up to 1993. It means he can free capital set aside against possible future cash calls and plan the restoration of the family seat.

People will receive cheques, not bills

Slane Castle, in Co Meath, burned down in 1991 and because it was uninsured, and because of crippling Lloyd's losses, reconstruction was not possible. A series of rock concerts, featuring the likes of REM and Guns 'N Roses could only fund day-to-day maintenance.

Other names benefiting from the 1993 payout will have to consider the ways of minimising the tax they pay. It's not an issue if a name's historic losses continue to be greater than the income earned since the bad underwriting years began — many will be in this position and they won't have to pay tax. But those names who managed to keep another significant income source may have to give the Inland Revenue a cut of the 1993 payment.

One way of reducing this tax burden is to put the money into a special reserve created by Lloyd's. A name can put half the underwriting profits into this reserve. Income tax on the gains is thereby deferred until the name resigns and the money is withdrawn, when it is charged at the prevailing rate. But if the name makes underwriting losses in the meantime, the money in the reserve pays the deficit — the original income tax is never paid. The disadvantage of this arrangement is common to all tax-deferral schemes: when the money is withdrawn, the prevailing rate of income tax may be greater.

Nor can the money in the special reserve be used as "funds at Lloyd's", the money each name has to lodge with the market as a symbol of willingness and ability to pay potentially larger losses. For names who don't want to continue underwriting at Lloyd's, the special reserve is no use because it doesn't allow them to pick up the profits and leave.

But there is another option. From the 1993-94 tax year — the most recent year for which Lloyd's has paid out — names have been able to put profits into a personal pension. Depending on their age, between 17.5 per cent and 40 per cent of underwriting income can be put into a scheme as a one-off premium offering tax relief up to 40 per cent. The underlying investment accumulates free of income tax. As with all personal pensions, the income eventually drawn will be taxed, but a quarter can be withdrawn as a tax-free lump sum.

One advantage is that the money earned by funds deposited at Lloyd's as a surety — the so-called "unearned income" achieved by normal lump-sum investment — can also be pensioned. The maximum amount of Lloyd's income that can be contributed for 1993-94 could be restrictive, though: between £13,125 and £30,000. But these allowances may increase for subsequent years.

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CHANGING TIMES

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THE TIMES
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SATURDAY
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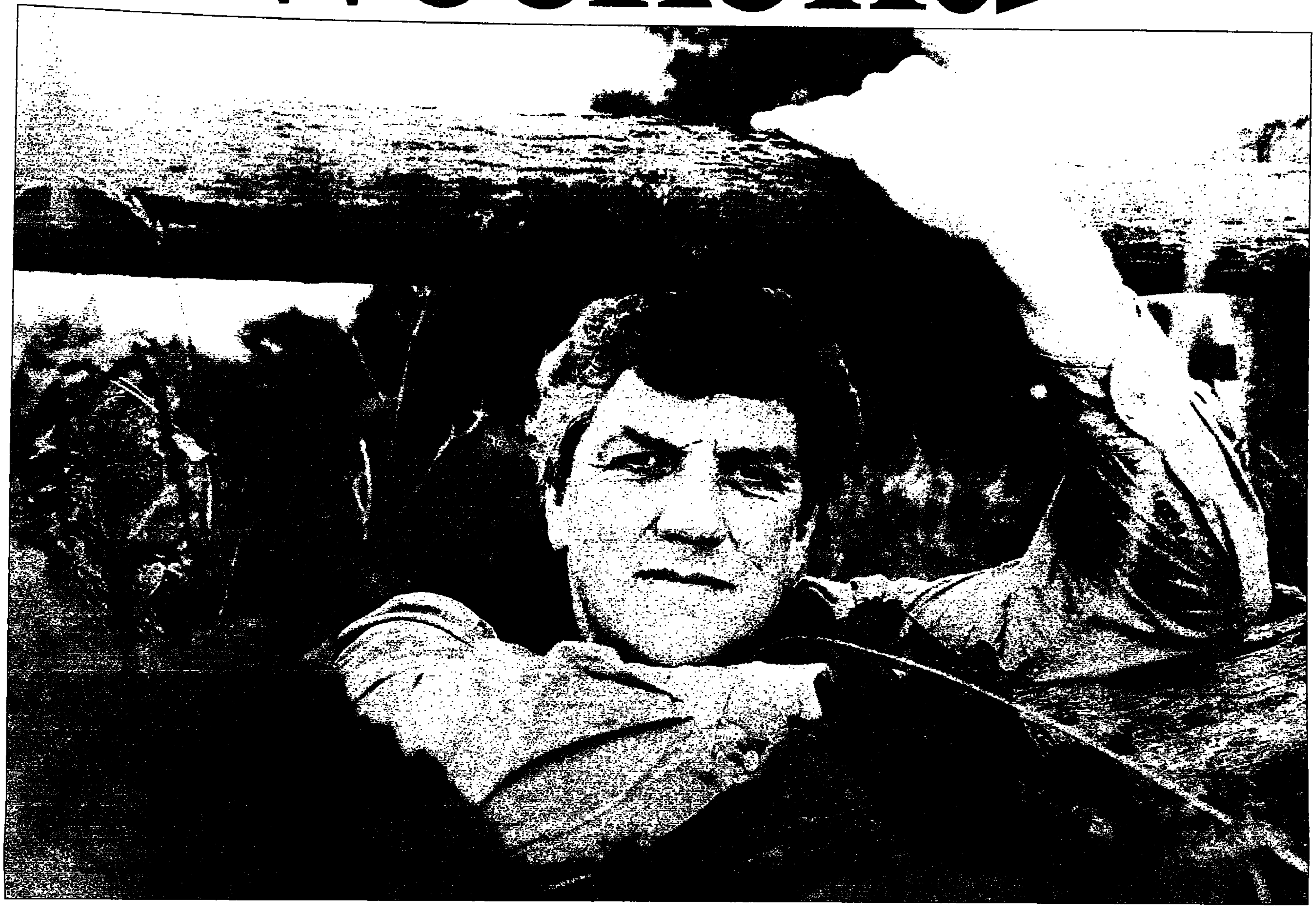

Paul Heiney launches THE TIMES

Countryside Campaign

What really matters to people who live in the country? A new column starting today looks at the concerns of rural life and invites readers to join our campaign

Of all the insults which could be hurled at a countryman, none was more crushing than that inflicted upon Vincent Vines by his fellow villagers at Hillesley in Gloucestershire. At last year's bonfire party, Mr Vines offered them all a glass of his special pea-pod wine. We do not know the precise details of how it was made, from which slopes the pea pods were picked, or whether the wine was matured in oak or an old Coke bottle. Having tasted home-brewed country wines myself, it is a safe bet that there was more of a bang in it than anything else at that bonfire party. But the villagers declined his offer and so Mr Vines drank the wine himself, alone, and apparently to excess.

This story would have ended with no more than a severe headache for Mr Vines had he not been so offended that he took an air rifle and started blasting off. The case came up last week and Mr Vines is now doing 200 hours' community service.

Without in any way endorsing the firing of pellets (try a pea-shooter next time, Mr Vines), I find it difficult not to have sympathy with the poor chap. Apparently, he had come to feel like a stranger in the village he had lived in all his life; a lonely man hemmed in, he felt, by sophisticated newcomers to whom, I guess, pea-pod wine was like some alien juice from the jungle.

What this story so graphically describes is the increasingly large divide that exists in some rural areas brought about by the different needs and wishes of people born and bred in the country and those who move into it, enjoy its pleasures, but often fail to appreciate its many woes.

I was once the incomer, new to the rural life with my polished brogues and a fanciful flat cap. Now, airguns apart, I am on Mr Vines's side. With some hesitation — for there will be many who will want to disagree — I would like to declare that after a long and arduous apprenticeship I am a countryman at last.

It is possibly one of the great misunderstandings of our time that a working knowledge of toads, gnats, owls and fungi is all it takes to win your countryman's badge. But these, I have come to realise, are as irrelevant to a true understanding of rural Britain as is familiarity with jellied eels and the *Lambeth Walk* to a working knowledge of London. To understand rural life you have to live it and breathe it, good weather and bad, in sickness and in health, and even drink the pea-pod wine. Do all that long enough and the door starts to open. It takes a long time and, at the grave risk of being marched out of the county for saying so, I feel I have now served my time.

It was my idea that we came to live in Suffolk 15 years ago. I found a tumbledown farmhouse with enough rising damp to float a ship, timbers on which woodworm had grown fat and doors that rattled as the winter winds whistled through the cracks created by the gnawing of vermin. Bliss.

In the garden, I planted marrows (never eaten), earthed potatoes (riddled by worms) and tended cabbages (decimated by pests). But none of it mattered.

To my romantically befuddled mind, the very arrival of the first hungry caterpillar of the season was some kind of welcome to the club. Now I could lean over the garden gate, like Mr McGregor, and moan about rabbits with the rest of the real country gardeners. This, you could say, is the First Age of Countryman; beguiled, besotted, and ignoring the cries of one's family who might add beleaguered to the list.

My next age — one modelled loosely on the humble farmer whose horse-drawn methods are extinct and whose spirit has long departed the land to the detriment of the soil and livestock — has been only too well documented in this newspaper. For six years, we — I say we because I always felt I farmed surrogately for the readers as much as for myself — ploughed, sowed, reaped and mowed with our faithful carthorses, trying to prove virtue in techniques and attitudes that modern farming has dismissed. When I get my breath back, I may come to some conclusion as to how successful we were. But now I have arrived at a defining moment — the start of the Third Age. With a chance at last to look at the world around me, rather than be forever gazing down at the soil, I see that much of rural Britain does not make for a pretty sight.

I never thought I would ever hear these words on my lips, but I now accept that *in* the country might actually be a lousy place to live. It takes a true countryman to admit that.

Not lousy, I hasten to add, for larks, owls, bats and butterflies, who now have more than enough agencies, support groups and wildlife groupies to need no further help. Or for me, for that matter; I am lucky enough to have the choice to up sticks, if I want. No, I am talking about country *people*. Remember them? They used to live hereabouts in thousands, in what were called villages which had pubs where they could all gather for a drink, in the old days.

People were part of the landscape till modern farming methods and financial and social pressures did away with them.

It is the few who remain who need a preservation order slapping on them, and pretty damned quick. These are the ones, of all ages, who were born in the country, live here, have to raise families, earn livings, forge futures for themselves. If I were to list their priorities, living as they do in the same lush and peaceful bit of England from where I write, you might think this was a plea from the inner-city.

Jobs are at the top of the list, particularly for the young. We live not far from Sizewell. There was a distinct groan to be heard from school leavers when the building of the third nuclear reactor was shelved: that's how desperate they are. From unemployment, it is not a large leap to drugs and minor crime.

Schools are a worry too; not so much the standard of them, which is generally high, but the number and scattering of them. Then housing, especially for young families who cannot afford prices inflated beyond their reach by the seekers after weekend retreats. Add to that a shortage of transport, shops and pubs and you start to get a better picture of life in the country in the late 1990s. Notice no mention of the environment, farming practices and landscape issues, which seem to be so fiercely debated in the upland areas of north London. These matter, but so do the people.

To demonstrate how far the balance in rural priorities has shifted, a close look at a small rural market town is all that is required. Ignore the estate agents, the antique shops and the tea shops. Much left? Butcher, baker, candlestick-maker? Any sense of place where a community might gather? Probably not. On a really bad day, the only person to be seen might be someone rattling a tin, seeking support for birds, bats or beech trees.

A couple of years ago, after a brief visit to Romania, I returned home to find the atmosphere in some of our local small towns disturbingly similar to the depression that hung heavy over that country. Shops with half-stocked shelves, empty establishments vacated by businesses, which had gone broke and taken for a peppercorn rent by a chap

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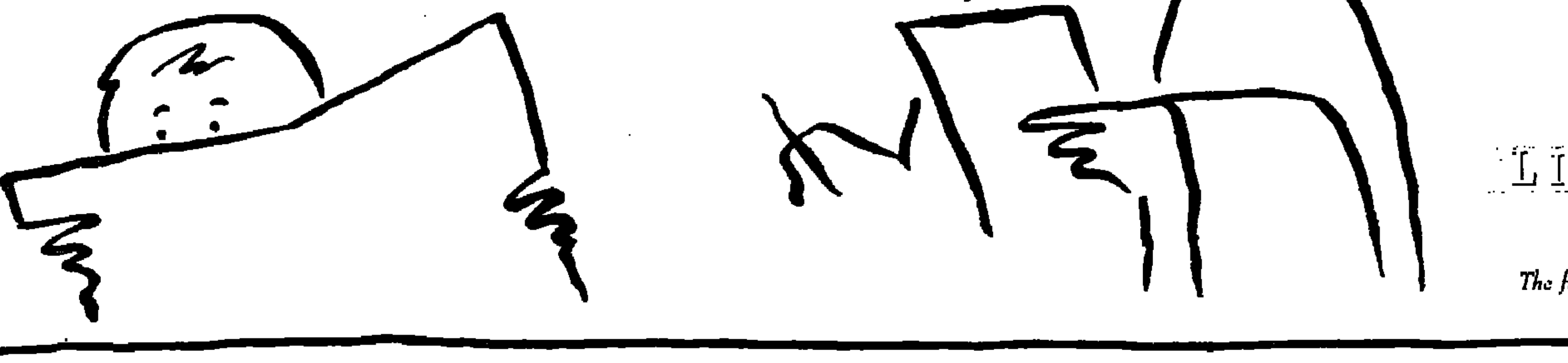

"Ah, Bin 65 I see. Cancel the cod. I'll have the lobster."

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JOHN WALMSLEY

ALTERNATIVELY SPEAKING...

by
RACHEL
KELLY

HELLERWORK

I have just propped three blockbusters beneath my desk and planted my feet on top, legs akimbo. My shoulders are dropped. I am breathing slowly and deeply. My head is central to my shoulders. I look ridiculous and feel great.

I'm fresh from an hour of Hellerwork. Most people won't have heard of it, and health centres tend to refer to Heller massage. In fact, it has almost nothing to do with massage.

It wasn't that I was feeling ill. But nor was I feeling well. Like many, I felt underwhelmed. Nothing in particular: not off-colour, but then certainly not on tip-top "Hello flowers, hello sky" form either.

I had a fairly average range of symptoms: tiredness, slight backache, tension round the shoulders, the odd patch of insomnia. Then I read of John Higginbotham, a freelance trombonist currently playing in the West End musical *Martin Guerre*, who claimed his life had been "transformed" by Hellerwork. I can't resist anything which promises the T word.

This is not a cure for the shy. When I arrived at Roger Golten's studio in Baker Street, London, I found a pony-tailed, bejeaned 4?-year-old, his looks belying his age. He told me to undress to my underwear for inspection.

This was to assess my posture. It was what Mr Golten describes as "average", which sounds as though it means not too bad but actually is in contrast to "normal". Basically, normal means you can look down and see your toes. I couldn't.

"We tend to slump, pushing the weight forward," he said. My own posture was weakened by being small (5ft 2in) and large chested, which again throws the weight forward and puts extra strain on the shoulders.

When I was flat on the couch, Mr Golten asked me to examine my breathing. It was shallow and short. "I want you to remember that and see how you feel at the end of the session," he said.

The idea of Hellerwork is that our bodies adapt to the way we live. And because many of us stand badly, sit for too long in ill-designed chairs and tense our bodies to handle stress, we end up structurally misaligned.

Hellerworkers claim to restore flexibility by deep-tissue bodywork, thereby relieving tension. Unlike masseurs, the Hellerworker bypasses muscles and concentrates, instead, on fascia. The fascia is the structure that binds muscle fibres together and links with tendons and ligaments.

The idea is that the fascia gradually adapt to the way we move. If, for example, you hold a telephone in a fixed position for a long time, the fascia gradually bunch up to cause tension. And by learning to walk and sit properly, we can do much to help ourselves.

Mr Golten's skill is to iron out, using his hands and arms if need be, those knots of tension and make you feel loose and supple.

Be warned: it hurts. But the pain comes in very short bursts and is interspersed by a wonderful kneading that seems to go to the very heart of those horrid tense spots in a way that makes ordinary massage feel redundant and light-fingered.

The pain lessens as the blood flows back to tissues you feel it has long bypassed, and your breathing gets slower and deeper. And the more you relax when you learn that Mr Golten is a sympathetic father of two, who used to be a ship broker, the less the pain.

In fact, the pain is instructive. The point is to let go where it hurts. So my upper arms, for example, were tense from too much sitting at a computer screen. They hurt like crazy when Mr Golten began kneading. He told me to let go, stop tensing them up. The pain immediately lessened.

At that point, I felt like an ad for a fabric softener, originally the "before" jumper that is twisted and knotted, and then the "after" jumper that is soft and bouncy.

Hellerwork was begun by Joseph Heller in America in 1978. The deep-tissue "bodywork" as it is termed aims to realign and rebalance the body. The good news for the gym-shy is that violent exercise is unhelpful once your body is out of shape.

Mr Golten likens our bodies to cars. "If, for example, the front wheels were misaligned, you wouldn't suggest a driver goes on an epic 100-mile ride," he says. Likewise, too much gym work can be counter-productive as it hardens the muscles.

At the end of the session I felt calm, energetic and loose of limb. And I felt spiritually enlivened too. I think it was something to do with a sense of being nice to my own body and putting it back into its "normal" rather than "average" position.

There was a nice spiritual feel to our session. By concentrating on my body, rather than rushing round on behalf of others, I had a pleasing sense that I could achieve more.

And a postscript: my next door neighbour told me I looked taller. Now that's a bonus when you're 5ft 2in.

Hellerworkers use their hands and arms to knead out the knots of tension and make you feel loose and supple

FACT FILE

■ *Hellerwork theory*
This is a form of "deep" bodywork or massage that smooths out muscle blockages caused by stress and bad posture, thus realigning the body to its normal position.
■ *Advantages*
The effects are long-term as it teaches you how to improve your posture.
■ *Disadvantages*
It hurts.
■ *Cost*
£60 a session.
■ *Verdict*
Definitely worth it for long-term re-education.

SPECIALISTS

Only six Hellerwork specialists practise in the UK, all are based in London:

■ ***MacIntyre Gallery, 29 Crawford St, London W1H 1PL (0171-723 5676).*** **£40-£60 for 1 hour.**

■ **Life Centre, 15 Edge St, London W8 7PN (0171-221 4602). £60 for 1 hour.**

■ **Hale Clinic, 7 Park Cres, London W1N 3HE (0171-631 0156). £60 for 1 hour.**

■ ***Slim Jims, 1 Finsbury Ave,*** **London EC2M 2PA (0171-247 9982). £50 for 1½ hours.**

■ **Body Workers, 16 Brune St, London E1 7NJ (0171-721 7833/7835). £50 for 1½ hours.**

■ **36 Langley Hill, Kings Langley, Herts WD4 HEX (0956 514522).** ***£50 for 1 hour.***

SERIOUS SHOPPING

by
GILES
COREN

The Designer Shirt

People who do not understand designer shirts may never grasp what I am about to say. *But let me* touch one or two cultural chords.

Robert Redford, in Jack Clayton's 1974 film of *The Great Gatsby*, tosses some shirts in the air and *Mia Farrow*, as Daisy Buchanan, weeps. "It makes me sad," she sobs. "Because I've never seen such beautiful shirts before." And so she loves him. The shirts were by Ralph Lauren.

Think of the cop played by Sean Connery in *Rising Sun*, who stops a riot in the 'hood by wearing Armani. Richard Gere in *American Gigolo*. Mickey Rourke in *9½ Weeks*. Harrison Ford in *Working Girl*. When a *man* buys a shirt he is not just covering his body in fabric. He is taking part in a holy ritual.

But there are rules. Always spend more than £75. Remember a shirt *is* a man. I often find myself pottering around M&S, looking at nice cotton shirts *in* evening mauve for £29. I am on the point of purchase. And then I think, "why buy *it* here, when I can get the same thing round the corner, in Nicole Farhi, for £129?"

Try Polo by Ralph *Lauren. The* £85 *chino* shirts with their button-down collars, crisp lines, and small horse above the left nipple, colour-coordinated to complement, are the only way to dress for Sunday lunch. Grant Mitchell, in *EastEnders*, wears nothing else. There *are traps, though, even chez* Ralph. At £325 the Braddock wool overshirt in a dog-brown check is not only vile, but misses the point.

You do not want to leave the shop feeling like an idiot. Thus, rule two: never spend more than £175. Fail *to obey* this little dictum and you will find yourself in Versace — shirting hole of Peter Stringfellow, Chris Eubank, and Gazza — buying leopard print things for £380, or brown zigzags for £460. And yet, avoid Yves Saint Laurent's Rive Gauche. Their chino *shirts are identical* to Polo so there *must* be a reason why they are only £53.

The place to go for pure 1990s sexiness is Donna Karan, the Armani of the next millennium. The shop in New Bond Street, which opened three weeks ago, is what Heaven would look like if God was an interior designer. The black shirt in 100 per cent polyester is a give-away at £150, and there are hundred quid corkers *in acetate and rayon, that* say "cool" with two capital "O"s with little eyes in each one and long eyelashes.

Forget the trendier line, DKNY, or you might part with £140 *for their zip*-fronted thing, cut from discarded shell-suits. And that would be sad.

Better to track back to Emporio Armani, where *the tailored* shirts in charcoal crepe (£129) will make you forget the 1983-issue parquet floors and studded collars that snap *off the first* time you undress. Oh, and buy nothing in the Armani Jeans line, the gold flash on the pocket makes you look like a boy scout. But it is *the* place to root out the stonking one-off. I have a 1992 long-*tailed linen shirt in* midnight blue, which can still walk into the Colombe d'Or, on its own, and have Michael Winner ousted from the best table in the house.

But times do change. "Everyone," I am told, "is going Gucci and Prada *mad." Leave them to it. If* you want epaulettes on your flimsy, belly-hugging shirts get them mail order from the ads in *The Guardian*. Take these guidelines as a periapt against post-purchase tristesse. Don't bother trying it on because at that price *it must* look good. And remember: it will never wear out, because the washing instructions will be so complicated that it languishes forever at the bottom of the washbasket.

But the washbasket will feel *good*.

> 'When a man buys a shirt he is not just covering his body in fabric. He is taking part in a ritual'

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'Country life in Britain is threatened as never before'

Continued from page 1

who collected ramshackle bits of furniture and sat with them till sold.

Country people are resilient souls, more than capable of looking after themselves, given *half* a chance. They would be very happy to coppice the woodlands, repair the dry-stone walls, weave wattle hurdles, repair the landscape to visitors' taste — if only it could be made to pay.

Some nations appreciate their countrymen and encourage them. The French, Swiss and Italians subsidise the rural living of those who make the distinctive landscape of their countries what it is; in this country we are happy to see such people as our hill farmers smacked across the face by market forces against which even their hardiness cannot stand. Rural skill is not valued, and very little money exists to support it.

Probably the most useless *item in the real countryside is* the *Yellow Pages*, because the most useful people work not under convenient umbrellas but as gifted individuals who will happily *turn their hand to any of half* a dozen trades.

But to be an individual in this age of blanket legislation is no fun. Ask the beach fishermen who have been well and truly strung up by *European fishing legislation* designed to restrict overfishing. It is difficult to see how a handful of chaps working in something no bigger than an overgrown rowing boat is going to deplete much in the North Sea. Likewise the small butchers, the cheese-makers and hill farmers.

It is time for those who have a dreamy notion of country living to be presented *with a grasp of what it* is really like to live in what to many people is a playground. That is what I shall do here, every week, if country people would be good enough to help me.

Our agenda is as diverse as country life itself, and as rich as country people want to make it. I could list a thousand villages that have lost their pubs, post offices and village shops in the past couple of years, and another thousand that will lose them in the next two; the residents of Steppingly in Bedfordshire are having to buy back their own pub, allotment holders near Stroud in Gloucestershire are being flung out like weeds from the grounds of a hospital so that the land can be sold for development.

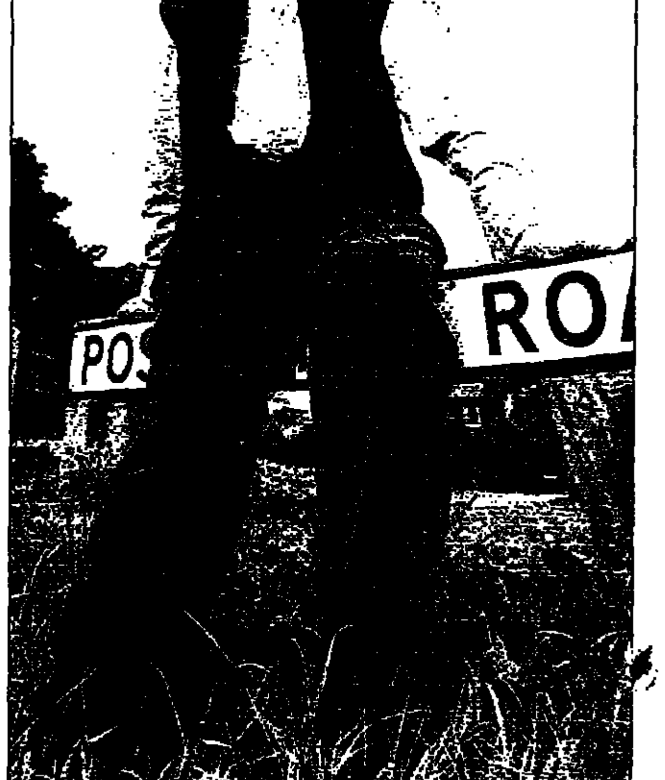
Country people have traditionally kept themselves to themselves, and likewise their problems. They are never going to get up and march to enforce their demands; they are too few, and too diverse, and too busy. But from my experience, they know what they need.

The parish pump may have dried up, the shop put up its shutters, but there will always be space here for a good tale.

Country life, as opposed to *the countryside, is as threat*ened as any of the birds and the bees. But without support for people living country lives, there is nothing but creeping suburbia and over-farmed prairieland, with pockets of self-conscious national park.

In the case of Mr Vines and *the pea-pod wine, the* judge told him: "You have got to learn to live with changing conditions. I understand [the village] is not what it was, but you have to change with it."

Why? Cue to dig in our heels, uncork the pea-pod wine and raise it to our lips like a trumpet of war.



Paul Heiney: "Rural skills continue to be undervalued"

THE TIMES
Countryside Campaign

Paul Heiney would welcome readers' contributions, addressed to him at *The Times* Countryside Campaign, c/o Weekend, *The Times*, 1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN.
We regret that he cannot enter into personal correspondence but will reflect readers' concerns through his column every week in Weekend.

Cover photograph and picture of Paul Heiney this page by PETER NICHOLS

هكذا في الأصل

Green wellies to step down

Grace Bradberry reports on how the green wellie, once the undisputed icon of the countryside, is now losing its status among rural attire and being discarded in favour of trendy walking boots and hiking gear

Every Friday throughout the 1980s, overworked city-dwellers used to load up their jeeps for a country weekend. Everyone knew the form. Whether it was a converted barn or a "stately" that one was headed for, the ritual was the same: back out the jeep, load the red setter, and pack a Barbour jacket, cords, and a pair of green wellies.

Not black. They were what clueless townies wore on their occasional forays beyond the Home Counties. But green, just like the ones the local farmers wore. Unfussy, untownie and indisputably "the right thing", they separated the Tamaras from the Traceys.

Somewhere between the 1970s and the 1990s, however, they moved through a steep style curve, then dropped swiftly away into ignominy. From an upper-class idiosyncracy, they became the insignia of the Sloane Ranger, egged on by pictures of Lady Diana Spencer, togged up in tweeds and wellies to prove her love of country pursuits.

But the rot really set in when they became the weekend wear of estate agents. The mud stuck and now they are worn only by *arrivistes* and die-hard traditionalists.

The green wellie has been so debased, so over-exposed, that it is a sartorial joke, ripe for lampooning. Antonio Berardi, one of the young Britpack designers, has come up with a skin-tight green wellie stiletto, to be worn at clubs as part of the "new Sloane" look that designers are pushing at the moment.

But though designers may be embracing Sloanedom, those born to that world are still fleeing from it. "You only have to say the word Barbour and everybody falls about with sick bags," says Ewa Lewis, social editor of *Tatler*, and a keen observer of the county set at play.

"Wellies come in all sorts of colours now, and lots of people don't wear them at all. I've got a pair of Lady Northampton's black canvas boots, but they're falling apart. I've begged her to make some more but she won't." The new "uniform" consists of padded tweed jackets, thick-soled boots, and large hats, particularly Gilly Forge's Andy Capp styles. "Don't whatever you do wear feathers in your hat," warns Miss Lewis. "It really is naff."

Why wear a hat at all? To real country types, they spell not only warmth but camouflage. "My hair is practically white and acts like a beacon," says Jennifer Guerrini-Maraldi, fashion editor of *Country Life*. "I'm worried the pheasants will see me, so I always wear a hat."

Style-snobbery aside, green is a hardy perennial for outdoors, blending as it does with the grass and trees. Even Goretex jackets, which used to come mainly in "mountain rescue" colours (shocking pink, turquoise), are now available in a suitably rural green.

But within the narrow bounds of what is acceptable, there is some room for manoeuvre. Thomas Burberry, the more youthful diversion line of Burberry, specialises in trad-with-a-twist, as does Victoria Stapleton, a 28-year-old country girl who designs using traditional Brora tweeds. "I find a lot of my designs in people's old gun rooms," she says. "A jacket that belonged to someone's grandfather or whatever. Then I'll take the designs apart and put them back together using tweeds and herringbones, and making them a bit more groovy. Above all, my customers don't want to look like real old Sloanes." Mindful of the fate of the Barbour, she is careful to allow nothing to become "the bog standard look," as she puts it. "I don't want to create something that can be copied by everyone, so I only make 25 of a particular design in a particular tweed. The chances of bumping into someone else in the same jacket are pretty slim."

But wearing the same shoes as everyone else, is, apparently, perfectly acceptable. Timberlands remain firm favourites, but Caterpillars have now taken over as the in thing. "If you must wear wellies, then black ones are better than green, and why not get them from a farm shop? Why pay a fortune for ones with a name blazoned on the side?" suggests Miss Stapleton.

The author Margaret Drabble says: "I have had the same pair of black wellies for 30 years, and they are totally impenetrable. In fact, I can't understand how wellie makers stay in business, because they seem to last forever. I like black ones because when I walk in woodland, I like to blend in, but I don't regard them as a fashion statement — they are just to slosh around in."

The television presenter and frequent countrygoer Mariella Frostrop says: "I have a pair of black wellies which I bought from a service station. I wear them with layers and layers of thick socks. If I was given a pair of green ones, I confess I probably wouldn't wear them, but give them to my mother who still loves that kind of thing. She has always lived in the country and doesn't have any pretentions about what to wear there.

Santa Palmer-Tomkinson, who grew up in the country but now works for the jeweller, Theo Fennell, in London, confesses she still wears green wellies. She says: "They are an extremely old pair of hunting wellies, which I have worn since I was at school. But when friends come to stay, they usually wear black ones or walking boots. I am sure my sister, Tara, would much rather go out in a pair of Timberlands."

STEVE POOL

LEFT: Green "Border" Barbour jacket, £149, Farlows (5, Pall Mall, SW1; 0171-839 2423). Cream merino wool poloneck, £65, John Smedley (from Harrods and department stores nationwide; 0171-580 5078). Tweed pleated skirt, £174; Burgundy/jade/cream print wool challis shawl; shooting stick, £160, all Holland and Holland. Green Barbour wellies, £39, John Lewis (0171-629 7711)

ABOVE: Tweed country check jacket, £225, Brora (344 Kings Road, SW7, 0171-352 3697). Blue fleck tweed zippered cardigan, £75; matching crop sweater, £59.50; cranberry jeans, £49.50, all Thomas Burberry (191 Regent St, W1, 0171-734 4816). Green tweed cap with fake fur trim, from £75 to order, Gilly Forge (14 Addison Ave, W11, 0171-603 3833). Brown leather boots, £79.99, Caterpillar (from Cobra Sports, 0181-847 4616)

I WOULDN'T WEAR ANYTHING ELSE

Jonathan Dimbleby, President of the Council for the Protection of Rural England: "I have two pairs of green wellies, one for walking and the other for wearing in the cow-shed, which is covered in dung. I buy the expensive type, which last a long time and protect me from a pitchfork in the foot or any damp oozing between the toes when I am in the cow-shed. I don't care if people say they are unfashionable — I hope they are."

Joan Bakewell, author: "The track to my country house is no place for leather slippers or walking boots. I wouldn't part with my green wellies. In the country one needs serious utilitarian stuff, not fashion accessories."

Jeffrey Archer, author: "I wear green wellies every Saturday at Cambridge City rugby ground which is very muddy.

I wear them with woollen socks knitted for me by a lady from the Hebrides. Nothing else would be as comfortable or warm. Long live the green Wellington."

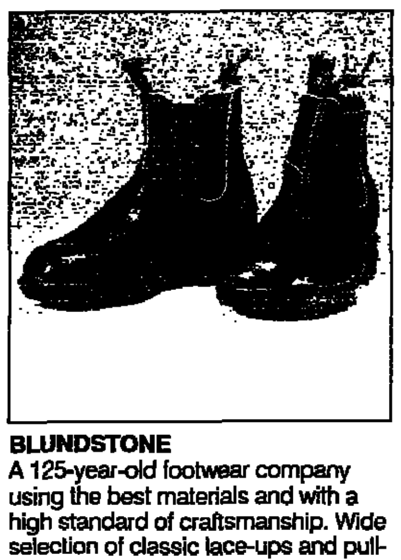
THE BOOTS THAT MEAN BUSINESS

TIMBERLAND
This yellow boot is a popular choice for the outdoor type. It has a unique style and is now available in three new versions, Norwegian Crimp, Burgundy full-grain and Black full-grain leathers. Price £130. Details 0345 669988.

CATERPILLAR
This boot has durable Goodyear welt construction with oil-resistant sole. Available in dark brown or black. Price £79.99. Sizes: 37-46, from River Island, Office and Sacha, all with branches nationwide.

PARABOOT
This Norwegian company designs boots guaranteed to withstand the rugged outdoors. Available in coffee, black, brown and nubuck. Price £190, sizes: 39-46, from, Harrods, Knightsbridge, SW1; Office, branches nationwide, (0181-543 2211).

CAMPER
This zip-front high-performance waterproof fabric boot with a Dynatec modern upper is available in black, petrol blue or silver grey, Price: £97. Sizes: 34-46, 39 Floral Street, Covent Garden, WC2; Harvey Nichols, SW1, (0171-379 8678).



BLUNDSTONE
A 125-year-old footwear company using the best materials and with a high standard of craftsmanship. Wide selection of classic lace-ups and pull-ons are available in claret, brown and black. Price: £60, sizes: 32-47, from leading retailers (0171-460 3832).

"'A toast,' he said, 'to all that's elegant, vibrant, stylish, with hidden depths and a full, well-rounded body besides which all others must be measured.'"

"For one glorious moment, I thought he was talking about me."

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Convert to an architect

An architect-designed room is no longer such an expensive idea

HENRY BOURNE/CONDÉ NAST

TIM HAWKINS

Architect Ian Hogarth climbs the stairs in the new duplex apartment created on the roof of a former pub in Chelsea. Right: the double-height living and dining area

If mention of architects conjures up images of impressive but exorbitant designer homes, then think again. rchitects are now an affordable ption to manage the design and onstruction of even the smallest lomestic building project.

Many architects will handle rojects with a total budget of as ittle as £5,000. Julian Owen, an rchitect in Nottingham, feels hat the traditional image of his rofession as stuffy and expensive s now completely outmoded.

"Like many other professions, rchitecture has been streamlined y the recession. We are now nore accessible and affordable han ever before," he says. "Just ecause a design job is small, eople shouldn't assume that an rchitect is inappropriate."

As loft developments, barn onversions and self-build homes ake an increasingly firm toe-hold n the property market, architects re proving more popular than ver. Mark Humphries, an archiect and loft developer in Birmingham, attributes this popularity to a more design-aware public. "People are far more imaginative and adventurous than I'd ever believed before," he says. "In Birmingham, everyone wants shower walls made of glass bricks — I wish they didn't because they are so heavy. It's an architect's nightmare."

With so many people turning to architects for the first time, finding the right professional can be a daunting task. "Unfortunately, most clients just pick an architect randomly from *Yellow Pages*," Mr Owen says. "They can get a frosty response when they choose a firm more used to dealing with a budget of £250,000 in office development."

This mistake can be easily avoided by contacting the Client Advisory Service (CAS) of the Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA). The CAS has 14 regional offices and is available to anyone contemplating building work.

As Bridget Owen of the CAS explains: "Since 1972, we have been putting clients in touch with the right architect for their purposes in their area. We have an extensive database of more than 3,000 architects throughout the UK with details of their specialities and past projects."

Another useful source of information is the Association of Self-Build Architects (ASBA). This is a network of 45 architects' practices across Britain that specialise in the design and construction of homes, as opposed to retail or commercial work. ASBA offers a first consultation free of charge and information is available on its freephone number 0800 387310.

"Having found one or more architects suited to the type and scale of your project, the next step is to look at other projects an architect has completed," Mr Owen says. "You can either ask to see photographs of their past work or, better still, if you have the time and energy go and see the projects for yourself."

Ms Owen of the CAS also suggests that prospective clients should contact some of the architect's previous clients and ask them for references. "There is nothing like getting the client's side of the story."

An architect's fee is usually calculated as a proportion of the total cost of the project. This can vary but is usually between 10 and 15 per cent of the total cost. A figure of 12 per cent for most domestic projects would be a fair guide. But remember that architects can actually be a good financial investment by saving you far more than they cost in fees. "Usually architects get involved at the tendering stage when the various contractors present the client with an estimate for the work," Mr Owen says.

"Tenders we received on a recent project to build a house from scratch varied from £87,000 to £128,000. With such a large variation it is not hard to see how architects can literally pay for themselves."

ADAM BARKER

- *Client Advisory Service, Royal Institute of British Architects, 6 Portland Place, London W1N 4AD (0171-307 3700).*
- *Association of Self-Build Architects, Junction 41 Business Court, East Ardsley, Leeds, West Yorkshire WF3 2AB (freephone 0800 387310).*
- *Julian Owen Associates, 6 Cumberland Avenue, Beeston Nottingham NG9 4DH (0115-922 9831).*
- *Mark Humphries (01905 621811).*

WHAT YOU GET FOR YOUR MONEY

■ *Design stage*
The architect works with the client in developing a brief for the work and producing ideas and sketches. The final result is an outline design which the architect then submits for planning permission. (Often an architect will consult with planners before submitting the design, especially if it is in a conservation area — this saves disappointment at a later stage.)

■ *Working drawings*
The architect makes submissions to the local authority in order to ensure that the project complies with building regulations — this stage is concerned with health and safety, ensuring that the construction is sound.

■ *Detailed design*
The design is produced covering the whole project, including fixtures and fittings, right down to the finish on the bath taps.

■ *Tendering process*
The architect invites tenders from contractors, then chooses the best offer and makes sure that written contracts are signed, binding the contractor to complete the work.

■ *Construction*
The architect manages the construction process, attends site meetings and prepares the certificates necessary for raising money from building societies.

SPACE SAVERS

Littman Goddard Hogarth in Chelsea, west London, has six architects. The practice undertakes all manner of projects — small and large, domestic, retail and commercial.

"More people are turning to architects as an alternative to interior designers," says Ian Hogarth, a partner. "The real advantage of architects is that they are trained and skilled in space, light and colour not just surface decoration."

He feels that the increase in numbers using architects is in part a product of a more design-aware public.

"There is a backlash against the dreary properties churned out by the volume home builders," he says. "Sadly, developers continue to be obsessed with the number of bedrooms. They pay no attention to the potential of the space that they are using."

An architect's work can add substantially to the value of the property, whether aesthetic value reaped by the occupants, or financial value from a higher selling price or rent.

Even small projects can benefit from this input. Littman Goddard Hogarth recently completed a total redesign of a one-bedroom flat in Piccadilly, central London.

"First we removed everything in the flat and opened it up," says Stephen Turvil, the architect. "Having converted it to an open-plan space, we put in a sliding wall to partition off the bedroom. The flat now has variable space."

The whole project, which took three months, cost £55,000, including construction work, materials and the architect's fees.

This may sound like a lot of money, but Mr Hogarth puts the costs of the project into perspective. "The work turned a shabby flat that was impossible to let into a space that was let at nearly treble the previous rent four days after completion. The flat will not need any refurbishment for 20 years."

- *Littman Goddard Hogarth, 12 Chelsea Wharf, 15 Lots Road, London SW10 0QJ (0171-351 7871).*

PORTLAND ROAD, W11

Behind the Victorian facade, a most attractively presented house with a west-facing garden.

3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, 2 reception rooms, kitchen/dining room, utility room, cloakroom.

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WANDSWORTH: 0181-871 3033

PIMLICO, SW1 Freehold £595,000
In Moreton Place, an elegant and well decorated house with long sash windows onto the front balcony and a separate basement flat. 4 beds, 2 baths. 2 reception rooms, study, kitchen, utility room, patio.
BELGRAVIA: 0171-730 9854

PHYSIC PLACE, SW3

In the environs of the Royal Hospital and Physic Gardens a well planned and beautifully finished house in a small exclusive courtyard.

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Lease to 2086 £675,000

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North London 0171-722 3336 Wimbledon & Surrey 0181-946 9447
South of the M4 01256 398004 North of the M4 01865 311522

DOWNTON, Hampshire Freehold £295,000
On a private estate a beautifully converted former carriage house with fine views over the surrounding farmland. 4 bedrooms, shower room, bathroom, 2 reception rooms, kitchen, utility room, double garage, gardens.
LYMINGTON: 01590 677233

BOX, Wiltshire Freehold Price Guide: £450,000
An intriguing property of several buildings including a 4 bedroom house, a recording studio and a swimming pool complex with additional sleeping accommodation plus kitchen. Garage block and office.
CIRENCESTER: 01285 642244

REGENTS PARK, NW1 Lease to 2066 £175,000
On the south side of the Park, in a private enclave, a quietly located second floor flat overlooking the courtyard. Bedroom, bathroom, recep room, kit, storage, lift, porterage, u/ground parking.
ST JOHNS WOOD: 0171-722 3336

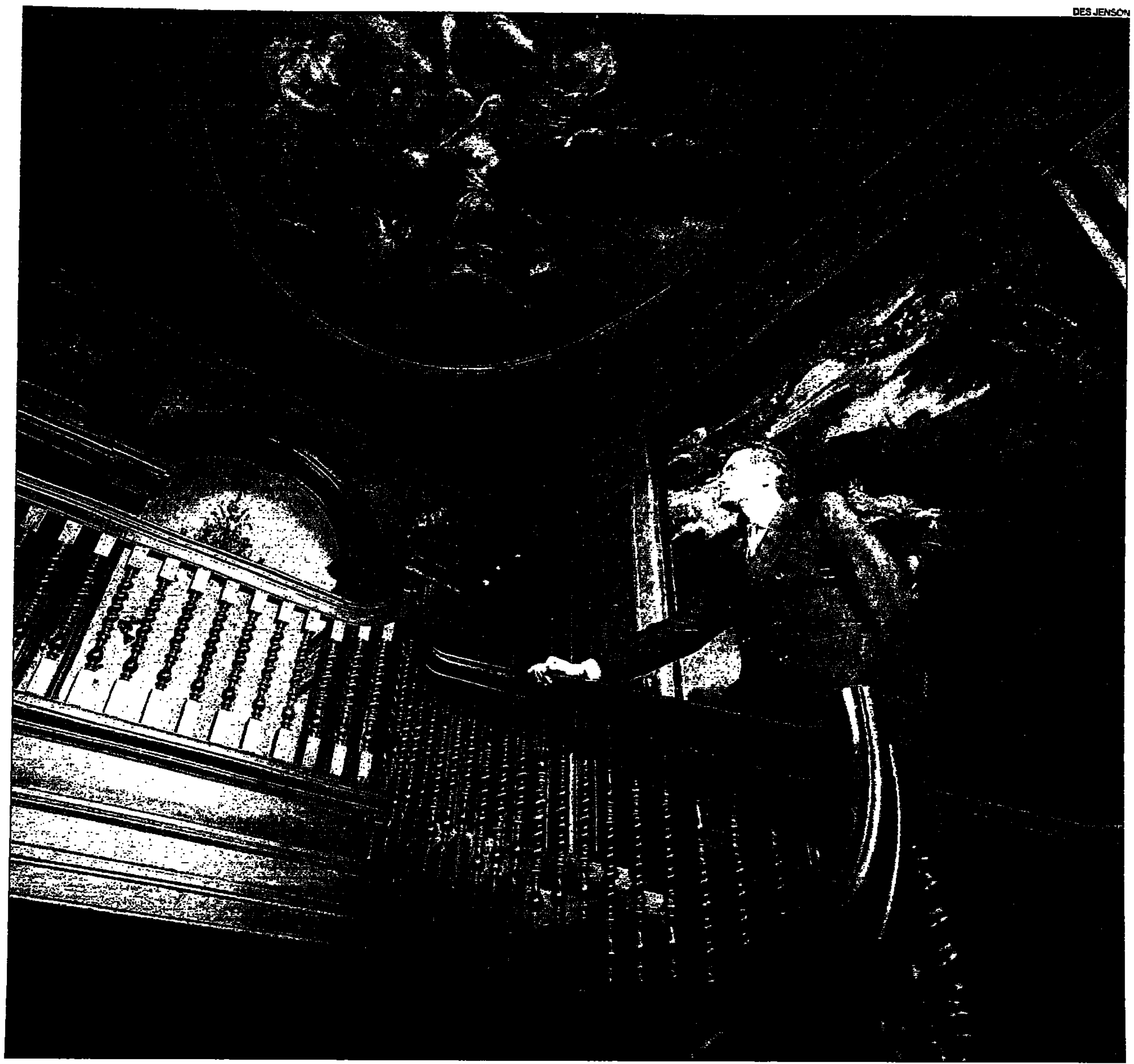
CHURT, Surrey Freehold £395,000
A modern house with all the advantages and within the NHBC guarantee but built in a traditional style in delightful countryside. 5 bedrooms, 2 shower rooms, bathroom, hall 3 reception rooms, study, kitchen, utility room, double garage, gardens.
FARNHAM: 01252 737115

Fiona Beckett inspects a £1.8 million, 17th-century house that spares nothing for the comfort of its inhabitants

Lots of rooms with a view

HOUSE OF THE WEEK

HERTFORDSHIRE • An exceptional 17th-century Grade II* listed country house, with historic, decorated stairwell rated among the best-designed and preserved late 17th-century murals in England, set in delightful formal gardens and grounds • Reception hall, staircase hall, drawing room, dining room, sitting room, study, snooker room • Large kitchen, breakfast room, utility room • Master bedroom suite, guest bedroom suite with sitting room, five further principal bedrooms, four further bathrooms (all en suite) • Staff quarters comprising two bedrooms, bathroom, living room, kitchenette • Large wine cellar, storerooms, boiler room, garaging, paddock • In all, about seven acres.



DES JENSON

The imposing sitting room of Northaw Place (above) and the magnificent, curved stairway, impressively decorated by Louis Leguerre with 17th-century murals said to be among best-designed and preserved in England

I wasn't sure, to be honest, if I wanted to share my house with two topless women. They were reassuringly Rubenesque but meeting two pairs of nipples on the way downstairs every morning, even if they are part of a historic set of 17th-century murals, could put you off your breakfast. However, to have your staircase decorated by Louis Leguerre, the artist who painted the murals at Blenheim Palace and Chatsworth House, has to be a bit of a coup by anyone's standards.

Northaw Place, to which the murals are attached, is a Grade II* listed house in the village of Northaw, just outside Potters Bar in Hertfordshire, and is for sale at £1.8 million. Originally built in 1697 for Sir George Hutchins, a prominent lawyer and court official, it was occupied throughout the 18th century by a succession of wealthy London merchants.

During the 19th century it was substantially altered, first by a Thomas Gould, and more extensively about 1900, when it was converted to a prep school. It has, in short, had a bit of a past; the records show the house has never been used by one family as a residence for more than 41 years.

The saving grace for the house, which might otherwise have suffered from the sub-Arctic temperatures, prehistoric plumbing and genteel tattiness that go hand in hand with most stately homes, was being bought by the present owner who, Damien from the estate agents would only tell me, was a successful businessman. I had already got the message that this was a man concerned about his privacy having negotiated two sets of electronic security gates.

When Mr SB bought the house it was a shell: he has transformed it into a warm, luxurious living machine.

The ground floor is effectively divided between three grand, formal and elegant reception rooms, which would impress even an Arab sheikh, and two more intimate family rooms — a vast kitchen-cum-dining room, warmly decorated with honey-coloured quarry tiles, and a (relatively) small family sitting room, sunny and overlooking the garden.

Much of the charm of the rooms lies in some skilful furnishing, including obvious mementos from trips abroad but, as a buyer, at least you would get the carpets and fashionably long curtains. (An American woman who was shown round apparently said: "Hey, what a pity they didn't get the length right.")

Up the fabled staircase, past the bosoms, are the bedrooms. Bed*rooms* I emphasise — all seven of them, most the size of a 16-bed dormitory (as, indeed, many of them probably were). All had their own en suite or adjoining bathrooms with not just a bath, a lavatory and a bidet but a state-of-the-art shower. I noticed that many of the fitments were different from the diagrams in the agent's details — presumably the owner got bored with the corner baths (very 1993), ripped them out and started all over again.

Relaxing: a spacious, luxurious bathroom made for two

What is really impressive about the house is the attention to detail. Nothing that could contribute in the smallest way to the comfort of its inhabitants had been overlooked. There were boys' things, such as a comfortable study (computer, fax, sofas to relax), and a movie-set billiards room. There were girls' things: enough wardrobes to house Imelda Marcos's entire shoe collection, a dream of a kitchen with an electric cooker *and* an Aga *and* a charcoal grill, a laundry room with two washing machines, and a walk-in airing cupboard with rows and rows of neatly pressed bedsheets.

There is, fortunately, space for a housekeeper, and one currently occupies the staff quarters in the basement.

Apart from the study, the billiards room and the dining room, the house is painted and carpeted in pastels, a feature that contributes to the overall impression of light and airiness, but which would be a trial to any less scrupulously well-behaved household.

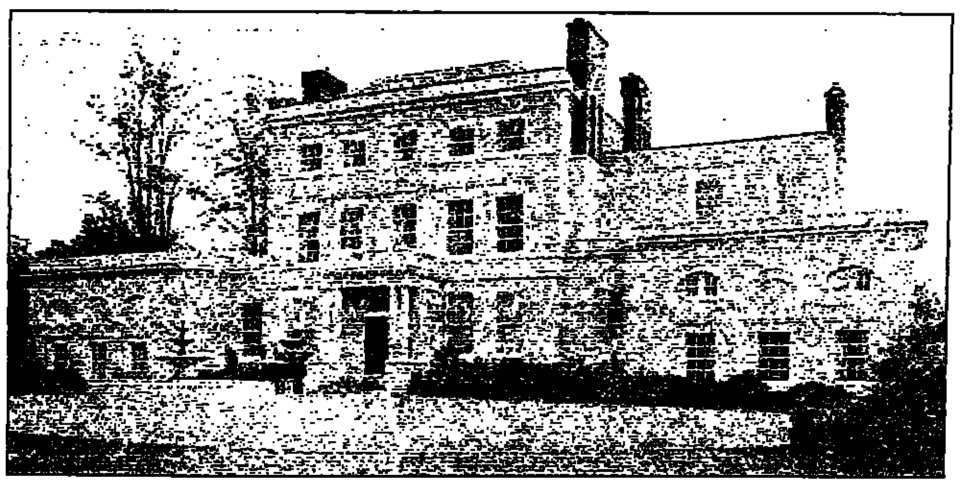
The house shows few signs (apart from some endearingly well cuddled woolly elephants in one of the bedrooms) of having been inhabited by four teenage daughters. The sugar pink carpets in two of their rooms were immaculate. How do these girls manage it?

Should Northaw Place sound *too* perfect there are, for me, two drawbacks. The garden, though well maintained, hasn't had the same care lavished on it as the house (there's little incentive to go out of doors), and for some the neighbours may be a tad too close for comfort. The brochure implies that the house stands on its own in the seven-acre grounds but the developers who owned it before built a courtyard of six other houses alongside.

There's plenty of lawn, however, which would be handy for croquet or for pitching a large marquee, as well as — something I have always longed for — a ha-ha. And even though the grounds aren't hugely extensive, the house overlooks countryside and farmland.

It's easy to forget that you're only a mile and a half from the M25, 16 miles from the centre of London and a mere 40 minutes from Heathrow, assuming the M25 is not at a standstill. But then, if you lived at Northaw you could simply jump into your private plane.

● *Northaw Place is for sale through Knight Frank, Beaconsfield, Buckinghamshire, (01494 675368).*



PROPERTY ANSWERS

Rachel Kelly, Property Correspondent, replies to your queries

Q **Prompted by rumours that recent droughts have led to houses cracking up, we did a quick recce of ours and found half a dozen hairline cracks. Help!**

A Most houses have cracks and if none of yours are wider than 5mm it is unlikely that they are caused by subsidence. Pointers include whether the cracks show inside and out; extend through into the foundations; are narrower at one end than at the other; and whether windows and doors are distorted or floors slope. If you are still worried, phone the Building Research Establishment (0171-505 6622) for a copy of its leaflet *Cracks Caused by Foundation Movement*, price £3.85.

Q **My husband and I are thinking of emigrating to a warmer climate — South Africa and New Zealand are our favourite options. Where do we start?**

A First, check with the respective embassies that you are eligible for emigration. The New Zealand Immigration Service (0171-973 0366) supplies a self-assessment guide. For property information, send an SAE for the free publications *Destination New Zealand* and *Life in New Zealand* — which also have a limited list of some agents — to: New Zealand Immigration Service, New Zealand House, 80 Haymarket, London SW1Y 4TQ. Knight Frank has three offices in New Zealand: Auckland (00 64 9 30 77882), Wellington (00 64 4 472 3529) and Christchurch (00 64 3 379 9787).

The South African High Commission has an information pack, *South Africa News*, specifically for Britons, and relevant pages of *Yellow Pages* for agents. In Britain, the Commission recommends the agents Pam Golding International (0171-629 2283) and Peter Chamberlain of Realty 1 DRR (01283 716091).

Q **I want to let my two-bedroomed flat and have heard that some agents will pay for refurbishment. Is this a good idea?**

A Malcolm Harrison, of the Association of Residential Letting Agents (ARLA), says: "I have heard of such offers, usually from agents trying to break into the market, but no reputable agent would do this. Such offers may not be soundly based." If you are worried by the state of your property, try to work out if its decor reflects the value of the property. An ARLA booklet, *Trouble-free letting: What every landlord and tenant should ask*, is free to tenants and landlords. For a copy, send an SAE, to: ARLA, Maple House, 53-55 Woodside Road, Amersham, Buckinghamshire HP6 6AA.

Q **Someone told me that the most expensive flats are those on the first floor, and the higher you go the cheaper they become. Is this true?**

A It depends on the type of flat. Robin Bailey, of the agents Strutt and Parker, says: "In period house conversions, the ground and first-floor flats are more expensive because they normally grander, with have larger rooms, higher ceilings, possibly a garden, but no stairs to climb. For apartment blocks the opposite is generally true. Flats above the second or third floors are often brighter, quieter, safer and might offer a good view." This is the general price rule, but it is open to exceptions; a top-floor flat in a period house with a spacious roof garden might well fetch more than the flat on the first floor.

● *Property Answers, Weekend*, The Times, *1 Pennington St, London E1 9XN. We regret that few personal answers can be given. Advice is offered without legal responsibility.* The Times *also regrets that enclosures cannot be returned.*

A PICTURE OF BRITAIN'S WILD PLANT LIFE

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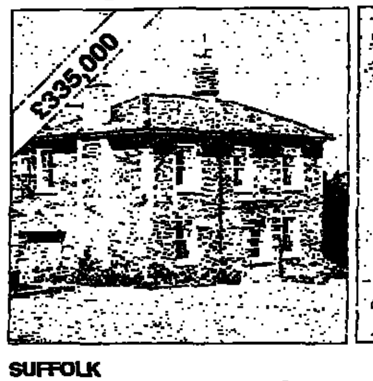
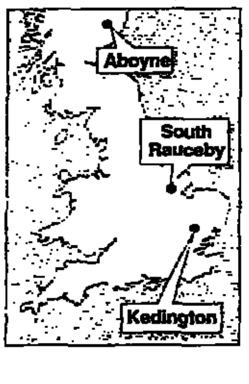
FOR SALE

AROUND £330,000

LINCOLNSHIRE
The Cottage, South Rauceby, nr Sleaford. 17th-century country house in just over an acre of landscaped gardens in a secluded village setting. Six bedrooms (some with dressing rooms), two bathrooms, drawing room, dining room, boot room, lamp room, kitchen, pantry, utility room and cellar. About £360,000 (Savills, 01522 534691).

SCOTLAND
Coull House, by Aboyne, Aberdeenshire. Imposing mansion in 5.3 acres of garden and woodland, in a secluded position in Deeside. Six bedrooms, three bathrooms (one en suite), playroom, two attic rooms, dining room, drawing room, study, library, kitchen and domestic offices. Two three-bedroom self-contained flats. Outbuildings. Offers over £300,000 (Savills, 01356 622187).





SUFFOLK
Kedington House, Kedington. Early Victorian house in 3.7 acres of landscaped gardens and paddocks, on the edge of the village. Five bedrooms, two en suite shower-rooms, bathroom, drawing room, dining room, sitting room, fitted kitchen/breakfast room, utility and conservatory. About £335,000 (Savills, 01223 322955).

CHERYL TAYLOR

Better transport and shopping has brought back home-buyers to London's riverfront

Tide turns for Docklands

ADRIAN BROOKS

Going with the flow: Barbara Dunford, who bought a flat to use as a second home in a waterfront block at Surrey Quays, spends weekends with her family in Hampshire

For those who want their first home to be more than a shoebox, and for commuters seeking a London base, Docklands has become desirable again. House-buyers and developers are returning, thanks to changes in improved transport, commercial growth and the potential pull of the Millennium celebrations at Greenwich. And the building boom is producing a new generation of homes.

In the early 1980s, the London Docklands Development Council was so frantic to get development off the ground that planning permission was easy to get. Now the LDDC is much stricter and more design-conscious. James Birkett, of the LDDC, says: "I think we are a bit embarrassed about some of the schemes in the 1980s but, on the other hand, there's Cascades, a scheme near Butler's Wharf, which won lots of awards."

New schemes are marked by their simplicity. This is partly because of changing tastes, but also about making flats cheaper. A new generation of home-owners has skipped the first rungs of the housing market and is moving straight into two or three-bedroom flats. Nor do they wish to pay £2,000 a year in service charges for gyms and swimming pools. They welcome basement parking, instead.

The brickwork now is often a traditional London yellow and roofs shallow. There are terraces rather than balconies, French windows rather than portholes, and natural rather than primary colours. A total of 868 new homes are expected to be completed this year. Of these, 854 were sold in the six months to the end of June.

Key developers are Galliard, Barratt, Regalian and Bellway Homes. Robert Barlow, of Barratt, says that his company has 28-30 per cent of the market there and "just can't build fast enough".

New schemes include a development by the architects CZWG for Barrymore Properties at Dundee Wharf of 127 flats and five houses, and four new developments on the Rotherhithe riverfront for Barratt. Yolande Barnes, head of research at Savills, estimates that more than 5,200 new properties are due to come on the market in the Docklands area by 1999 — and that's just the developments Savills knows about.

For potential buyers thinking about transport, the Docklands Light Railway has been upgraded to the tune of £700 million, with a new fleet of trains, automatic train-control system and a timetable running seven days a week, 364 days a year. A 4.2 kilometre (2.6 mile) extension to Lewisham is due to open in 1999. The average journey time from Bank to Canary Wharf is now 12 minutes.

The extension of the Jubilee Line to the area is on schedule for March 1998. Ms Barnes says that Narrow Street, Limehouse, Rotherhithe and Bermondsey will be among the main beneficiaries. For road users, the Limehouse road link is providing access to the City.

For shopping facilities, Asda, Tesco, Safeway, Sainsbury's and Kwik-Save have arrived. Rents have taken off, too. Five years ago, Knight Frank had few buildings to rent on its books. Today it splits its business 50-50. Examples of rents include a two-bedroom former show flat with river view at Trafalgar Court for £350 a week, and a one-bedroom flat near Wapping Tube station for £210 a week.

There are two buts, however. Notably absent from the area are families, largely because of the dearth of schools and facilities for children. And however much agents and the LDDC talk up the area, prices are still below their 1988 peak, though about 20 per cent up on their 1992 low. Take the circle development in Shad Thames, for example. In 1988 a flat there cost £200,000, in 1992 the same flat cost £70,000, and now costs £110,000, according to the agents Cluttons.

■ *CONTACTS: London Docklands Development Council* (LDDC), 0171-512 3000. Savills, 0171-730 0822. Galliard Homes, 0181-508 8881. Barratt, 0181-555 3242. Regalian Properties, 0171-493 9613. Bellway Homes, 0171-231 9981. Knight Frank, 0171-629 8171. Wimpey Homes 0171-474 2200.

■ Additional research by Jane Marriott.

RACHEL KELLY

'IT'S VIBRANT AND A WONDERFUL PLACE TO LIVE'

SIX months ago, Barbara Dunford, 39, chief executive of the marketing organisation London Medicine, bought a two-bedroom flat on the second floor of a waterfront block at Brunswick Quay, overlooking Greenland Dock, Surrey Quays, to use as a second home, *Cheryl Taylor writes.*

"When I landed my first job in London four years ago, I decided to rent a pied-à-terre somewhere central during the week, rather than spend hours on the train commuting from Portsmouth. But, the last thing I wanted at the end of a long day was to sit in a pokey place looking out at the traffic, so Fulham and Putney were out, at least in my price range. It also needed to be a safe area for a woman living alone," she says.

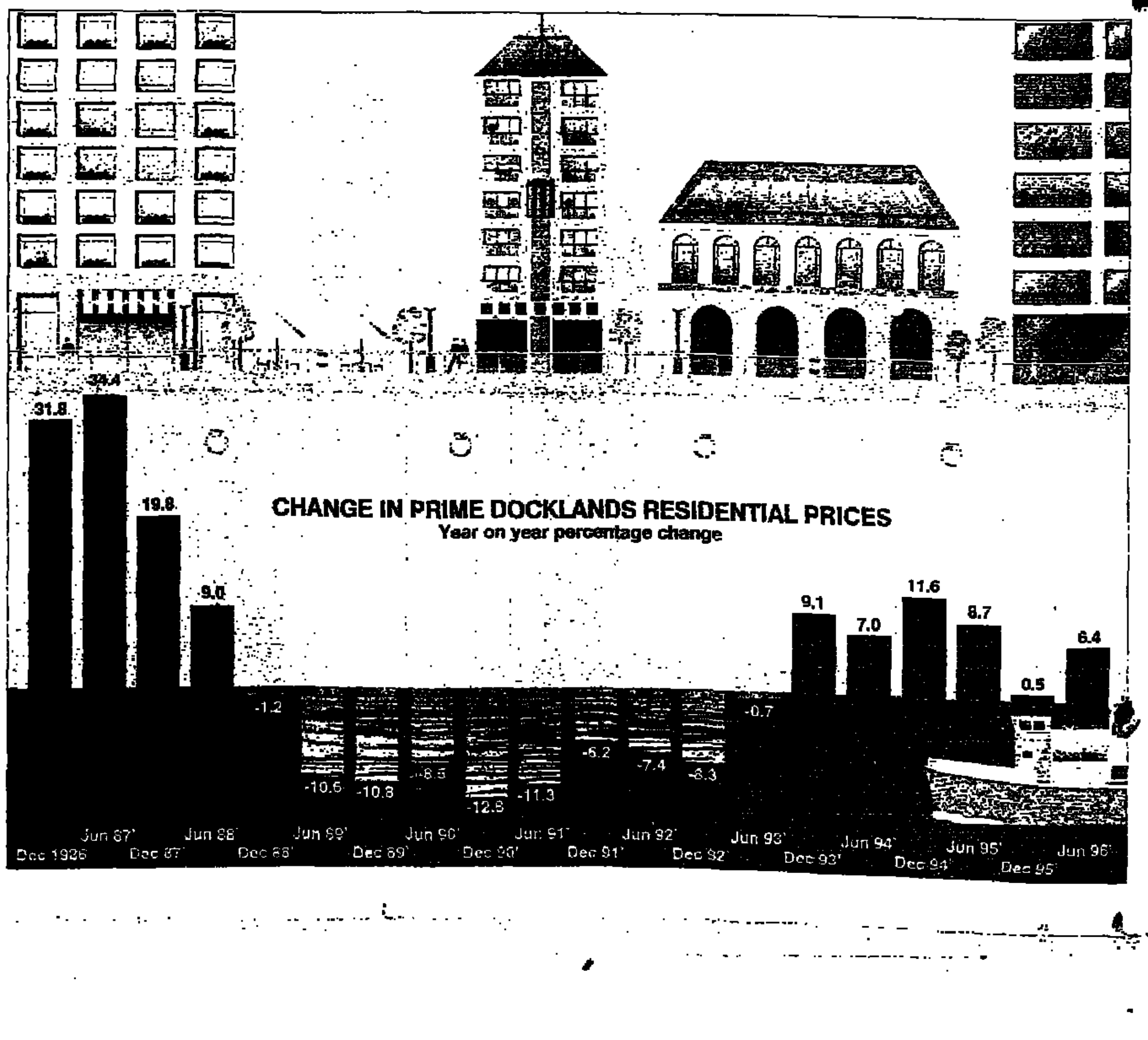
After renting in Docklands for the past three years, paying £650 a month for a small flat in Brunswick Quay, Mrs Dunford paid £74,000 for a flat in the same area, which includes a car parking space. Her family home is a four-bedroom detached house in Waterlooville, Hampshire, where she spends weekends with her husband Steve, a design engineer, and two teenage sons.

"From an investment point of view Docklands is good value. It is cheaper to buy than to rent. It is also a wonderful place to live — light, airy and vibrant. The City and the West End are on our doorstep, and smart shops, bars and restaurants a short walk away. And, I have a wonderful view over water," she says.

"I can sit on my balcony in summer after a hard day in the office, gin and tonic in hand, watching people windsurfing in the dock. It is very relaxing. I love it. I often work late and feel safer walking from Surrey Quays to my flat here than I do in Portsmouth. It is well lit, and there are always lots of people around," she says.

At present, it takes 40 minutes from home to work at her office near Bond Street, a tortuous route by bus and train, but when the Jubilee Line to Canada Water opens in 1998, her travelling time will be cut to 20 minutes, door-to-door.

New development at Rotherhithe



CHANGE IN PRIME DOCKLANDS RESIDENTIAL PRICES
Year on year percentage change

NORTH OF THE THAMES

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BRYANSTON CT W1 3 bed, 2 bath, dble lnge, 24hr porterage £349,000. 0171 724 9919

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SWISS COTTAGE NW3. 5 bed lux duplex flat, 2 receptions, 2 baths, ideal family home or investment. Quick sale £215,000. Shogun 0171 916 5500 or 0956 378165

WESTBOURNE GDNS W2 O/looking Gdn Sq. Nwly decorated 1 bed flat 16' recep rm kit/brek rm 2nd flr conv period hse £115,000 L/h Westbourne Estates 0171 727 8612

W12 Immac gdn flat, 1 bed, rec, kit/diner, bath, cellar £85,500 Roystons 0181 563 7100

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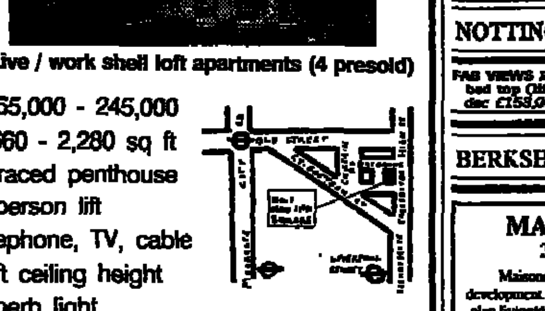

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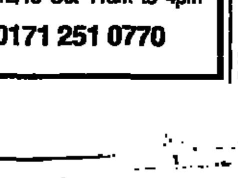

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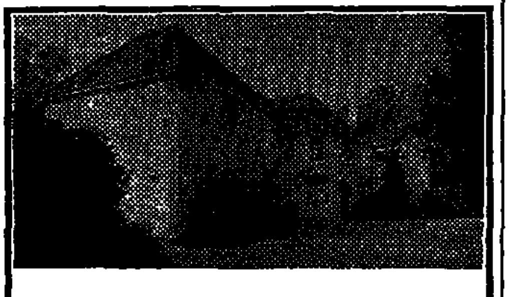

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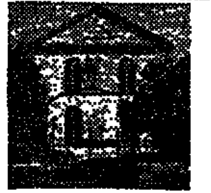
The Old Chapel
ULEY, GLOUCESTERHIRE



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GARDEN ANSWERS

STEPHEN ANDERTON
replies to readers' letters

Q All my gardening bibles say I should cut down *my* blue, *hardy* geraniums after flowering — leaves and flower stalks — to encourage a second flush of flowering. So why is it I never have a single further flower, let alone a flush? — D. Brooks, Robertsbridge, East Sussex.

A My guess is that you have the wrong "blue geranium". Many species will flower again — *G. pratense, clarkei, sylvaticum, himalayense* and more. Even without cutting back they will often throw a few later flowers. But *G. x magnificum*, one of the commonest blue geraniums, with coarse, hairy leaves, only ever flowers once, in early summer, and I have never persuaded it to do otherwise. Is this your variety?

Q The *Eucryphia glutinosa* I planted in 1980 at last flowered this year, but is getting rather tall and untidy. Should I prune it soon or in the early spring? — Mrs M. Keep, Seaford, East Sussex.

A What is untidy? In gardens we get used to seeing *Eucryphia* 'Nymansay', which is a columnar, evergreen hybrid tree. *E. glutinosa* is deciduous and hardier, but not columnar. I used to have an old multistem tree of it, 20ft tall and as much across, looking like an old thorn. *By all* means keep your tree tidy but do not ask it to change its shape. Badly placed branches can be cut out in March or April. Otherwise, no pruning should be needed.

Q I wish to move a beautiful, slender 30ft-tall *Chamaecyparis columnaris* 'Glauca' a distance of 6ft. The tree is well established in a dry position and its new position is also dry. When and how *should I attempt the* operation, and what preparation should I give to the tree and the new site? — *Mrs D. James, Bristol.*

A Conifers this size are extremely difficult to move, in terms of physical movement and transplant, with success. I recommend that you leave it alone, or get a specialist nurseryman to quote for moving it. The necessary size of rootball and length of preparation period would astound you. I shall be writing about moving extra-large trees later in the autumn.

Q Any time now my lawn is going to be covered in clumps of brownish puff-balls. These can be raked away, with some labour, at an early stage, but if left eventually break down into black shells giving off clouds of spores. Is *there* anything I can do? — J. Dege, Warlingham, Surrey.

A The spores may look alarmingly invasive, but the likelihood is that you have just one or a few established permanent colonies of puffballs under your lawn, which find conditions there to their liking, so making them able to produce fruiting bodies above ground — the puffballs themselves — regularly every year. The remedy depends on exactly what the fungi are living on underground, and exactly which species of puffball they are. It may be that *there is* woody debris under the lawn, which encourage the fungi; investigate this and dig out if necessary. If you have a puffball happy to live in open turf, the remedy — altering the texture, drainage, fertility and pH of the soil — may or may not be worth the effort.

Q For 26 years I have been trying to eradicate Japanese knotweed *from* my own and neighbouring gardens. Apart from the ability to break through concrete, it resists *all types* of weedkiller, which only spots the leaves. — J.L. Rowe, Southend, Essex.

A All I can add is that any plant regularly defoliated is weakened, so never let it develop proper stems. I wonder, too, if you have tried putting the weedkiller down into the stems? So often plants that are difficult to kill survive because it is so hard to get the chemicals into their system through the leaves. Try cutting off the stems at 6in and putting ammonium sulphamate (RootOut) into the hollowed stems. Or see Richard Mabey's solution on page 26!

● *Readers wishing to have their gardening problems answered should write to: Garden Answers, Weekend,* The Times, *1 Pennington St, London E1 9XN. We regret that few personal answers can be given and that it may not be possible to deal with every request. Advice is offered without legal responsibility.* The Times *also regrets that enclosures cannot be returned.*

Readers' tips on mending terracotta pots

SEVERAL readers sent in suggested materials for repairing terracotta pots. Mrs M. Finn, of Cranbrook, Kent, swears *by Plastic Padding Chemical Metal, made* by Loctite, of Watchmead, Welwyn Garden City, Hertfordshire AL7 1JB (01707 821000). Peter King, editor of the *Good Gardens Guide, uses Milliput (Unit 5, The Marian,* Dolgellau, Gwynedd LL40 1UU, 01341 422562) because it comes in different colours, including terracotta. A. Lloyd, Farnborough, Hants, *prefers normal (not* quick-set) Araldite, from hardware shops, and says: "Sit the glued pots over a light bulb so that the heat cures the glue before *the pot is moved.*"

The root of the problem

Stephen Anderton

explains how to get rid of a tree stump, with muscle power and a little patience

When a tree has to go, stump and all, it means hard work. But, whether you get it done by machine or slog away and dig it out yourself, there are a few tricks to be learnt which will make the job easier.

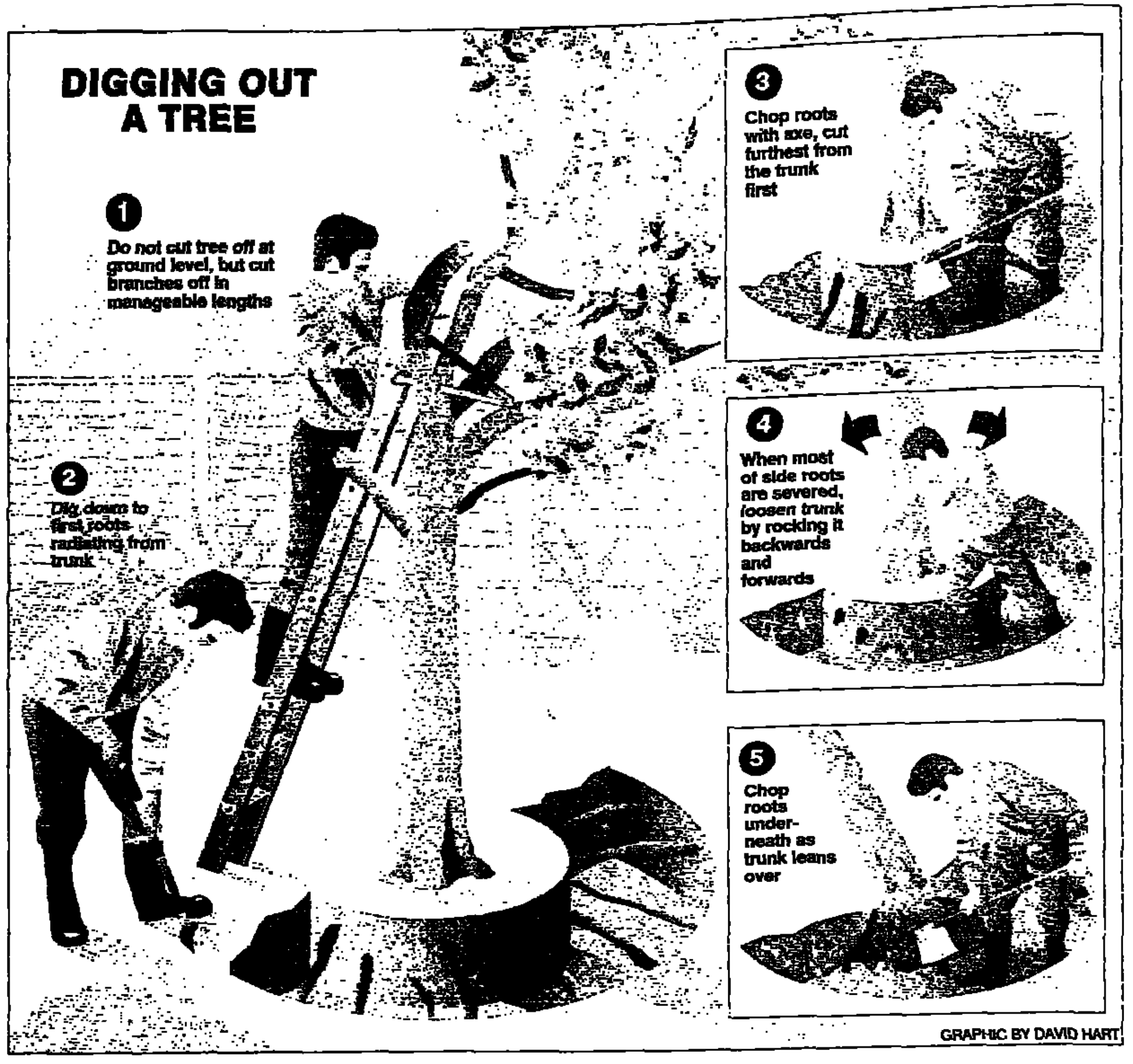
There was a sad old apple tree in *my garden*, "pruned" in the past and given the kind of amputations which went out with the *Victory* at Trafalgar. It was not a pretty sight. This year the tree *made only a few twigs* from the stumps, and I resolved to have it out.

The apple trees in my garden were *planted when the house was built* 90 years ago. Those which have survived are fat trees, with the size of stump you would not wish to have in a *disease-free, new vegetable patch*. So the root had to come out.

One option would have been to have the stump ground out *professionally. Machines for this pur*pose vary in size, but the smaller, slower kinds will fit through a 3ft-4ft garden gate. The tree is sawn off at *ground level before the grinder is let* loose on the stump below.

In principle, a stump-grinder is a fat chain saw gone into nose-dive. A "scrumbustulator", my neighbour calls it, and I can see why. Fist-sized teeth *tear* down into the underground wood, levered downwards by the weight of the machine and the skill of the operator. The screaming and tearing can last half an hour, or, for a large stump of an old oak, two hours or more. The machines' outlets are, of course, well guarded. Chipped wood flies out at an astonishing speed, and so do stones and soil. I once saw a stump-grinder demonstrated on a street tree in Chelsea; it put out both headlights on an expensive BMW.

Stump-grinders are not things to hire and use yourself, unless you are exceptionally confident with machines — and strong. Most companies charge anywhere from £50 for a small tree (6ft-20ft) to more than £2,000 for a large tree (over 100ft). One company in London boasted that its biggest job had been a 120ft poplar which took nine men to fell and cost the owner £2,600 and a further £600-£700 to grind out the *stump. My complaint is that, having* spent money on a man and machine, you are still usually left with a scoured wooden bowl *of root in the* bottom of the hole, particularly with the larger stumps. You can garden on top of it, and it will eventually rot, and harbour *less disease* than a *full* stump. But it is better out. So I decided to dig my stump out.



DIGGING OUT A TREE
1 Do not cut tree off at ground level, but cut branches off in manageable lengths
2 Dig down to first roots radiating from trunk
3 Chop roots with axe, cut furthest from the trunk first
4 When most of side roots are severed, loosen trunk by rocking it backwards and forwards
5 Chop roots underneath as trunk leans over

GRAPHIC BY DAVID HART

The first rule when digging a stump out is not to cut the tree off at ground level, as when grinding. Remove the branches but not the trunk. You will need plenty of trunk to pull on when the root starts to come loose. My tree had 12ft of trunk and stumpy arms, and looked like a wooden Christ over Rio de Janeiro.

The second rule is to have patience. It's no use hacking away in a fury. Method will get you there much faster. Take out a circular trench of soil, like a doughnut, around the trunk and make it twice as wide as your spade. Narrow trenches are no use; *you need to be able to stand in* there to swing an axe.

Keep digging until you come to the *first roots radiating from the trunk* and chop them with an axe at both ends. Always cut at the outer end first, then where it joins the tree. If you try to cut a root *which is* no longer firmly anchored to the trunk, the axe tends to bounce off and you waste your energy. Then dig again and get out some more soil.

In narrow trenches, the spade often catches on the cut roots and the soil falls off again, so do make it wide enough to work comfortably. Ensure the axe head is firm. If it is at all loose, soak it head-down in a bucket of water for a few hours to tighten the wedge, so that none of your energy is wasted.

Have a break and a coffee. Mop the brow. Lean on the tree a bit and see how firm it still is. Curse it, then start again, deepening the doughnut, and chopping more roots. Usually, by the time you have a trench 2ft deep — and that's a *lot* — you have got *through most of the side roots*.

At this point you'll probably ask yourself why you didn't have the tree winched out. A winch does make *light work of pulling over a tree*, but you must have something to pull *against* — usually another tree. With one-tree gardens you are stuck. Digging it *has* to be.

More often than not, a tree will have a vertical taproot, yet it is surprising what support a few remaining small roots can provide. Try pushing and rocking the trunk, perhaps with someone's help. Get it to start leaning and cut another root if you can.

Lift it and rock it again and, suddenly, with that awful groaning, the last bits of root tear free and down it comes. Wonderful. The children, cowering in the Wendy house, rush out to jump up and down and whoop. No winch. No grinder. Just patience, and more than a little muscle.

GARDENS TO VISIT THIS WEEKEND

Hackwood Park, Basingstoke, Hampshire (01256 23107).

One mile south of Basingstoke, signed off Tunworth Road. Open tomorrow, 1.30-5.30pm. £2, children free.

Tomorrow is the last chance this year to visit a gem of English garden history. The "Spring Wood" is an outstanding example of a formal woodland garden dating from the early 18th century and inspired by the French style of André le Nôtre. The design was planned from a central circular area, with a series of eight symmetrical avenues radiating out through the woodland that is especially rich in beech. The garden's *main feature is the* balance of natural woodland setting with fine architecture; in particular, follies and *temples designed by James* Gibbs. On an autumn day, when the leaves are beginning to turn, the garden is a magical place.

The Weir, Swainshill, Herefordshire (01684 850051).

Five miles west of Hereford on A438. Open Wed-Sun to end of Oct, 11am. £1.50, children 75p.

In autumn, this is principally a place to walk in undisturbed and natural surroundings, enjoying the views across the River Wye, with the Black Mountains in the distance. Created on a steep valley slope during the 1920s, its combination of the ambitious site and the use of well-planted trees and shrubs to give a decorative and yet natural picture, was typical of the period. The rock garden survives from the original, as do many of the trees, such as the large acers, whose canopies of autumn foliage contrast with the columns of upright evergreen junipers. It is worth taking one of the steep paths to get a spectacular view across the river.

Marwood Hill, near Barnstaple, Devon (01271 42528).

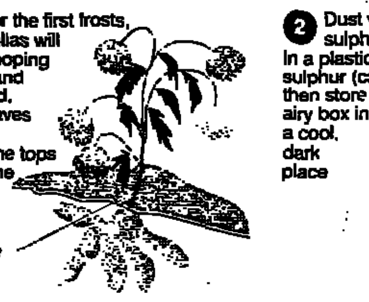
Four miles northwest of Barnstaple. Open daily, except Dec 25, dawn to dusk. £2, accompanied under-12s free.

Dr Smart's 20-acre garden near the north Devon coast has a reputation for its fascinating plants and their arrangements in a succession of harmoniously linking areas. The house overlooks the garden from the top of one side of the valley site and there is a real sense of landscape as you look up and down the garden and out to the countryside.

GEORGE PLUMPTRE

Marwood Hill has many fascinating plants

LIFTING DAHLIAS FOR THE WINTER



1 After the first frosts, dahlias will have drooping flowers and shrivelled, black leaves
Cut off the tops and lift the tubers
Cut here
2 Dust with flowers of sulphur, or shake in a plastic bag with sulphur (carefully!), then store in an airy box in a cool, dark place

Weekend Tips

- *Protect late cauliflowers from frost by bending the leaves down over the curds. Pot up mint roots for winter/early spring picking under glass.*
- *Lift main crop potatoes. Lift chicory for forcing indoors.*
- *When blackened by frost, lift dahlias, cut off the tops at 2-3in, dry in an airy place, dust with flowers of sulphur, label and store in a cool, dark place. Dry off potted begonias and store in a cold, dark place. Gently feed cyclamen with tomato fertiliser to build up flowering strength.*
- *Complete the picking of late apples. Spray peaches troubled with peach leaf curl before the leaves drop.*

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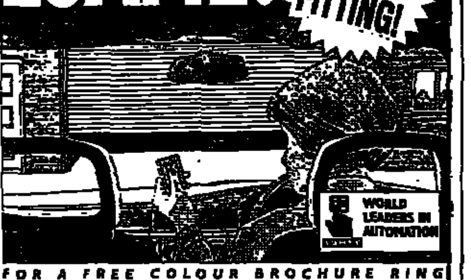

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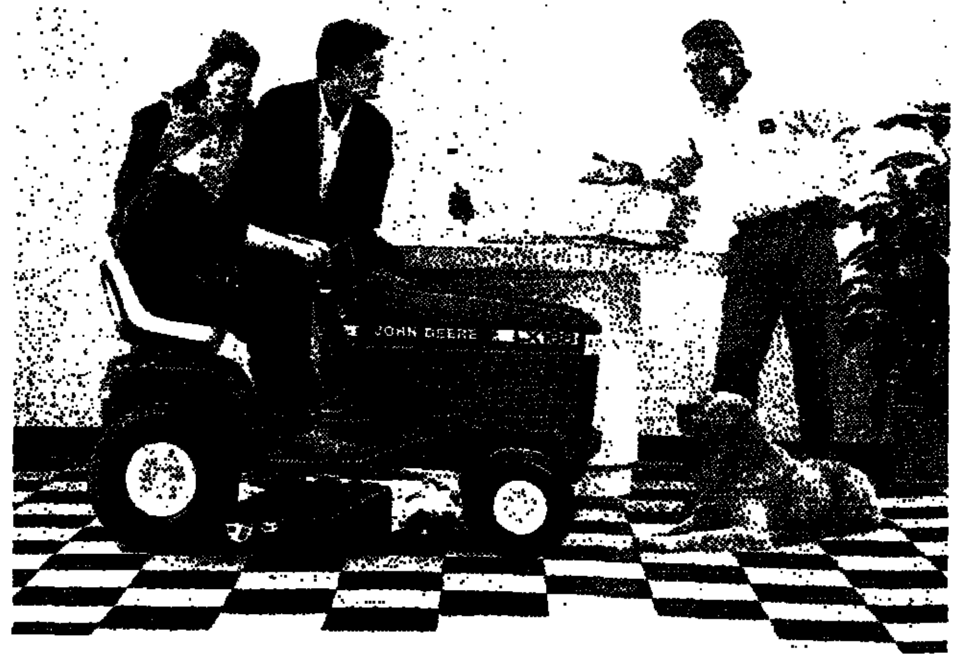

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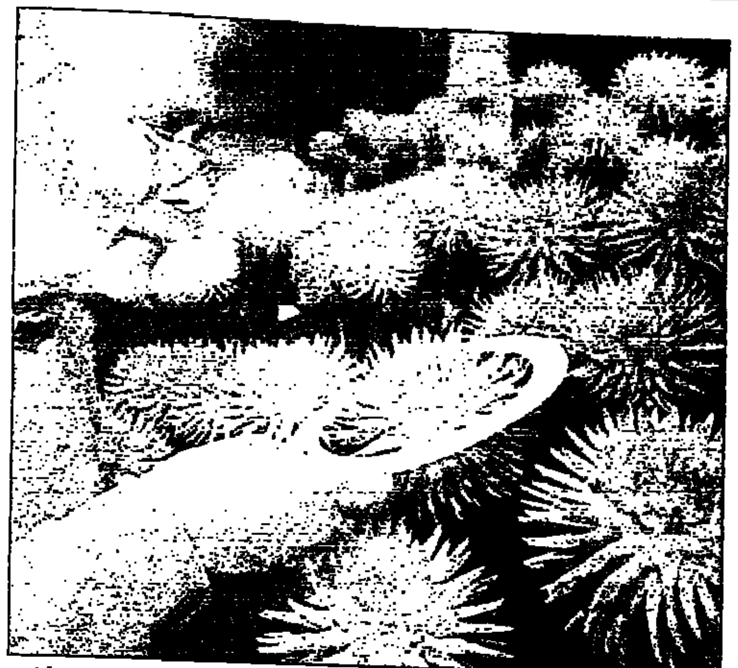
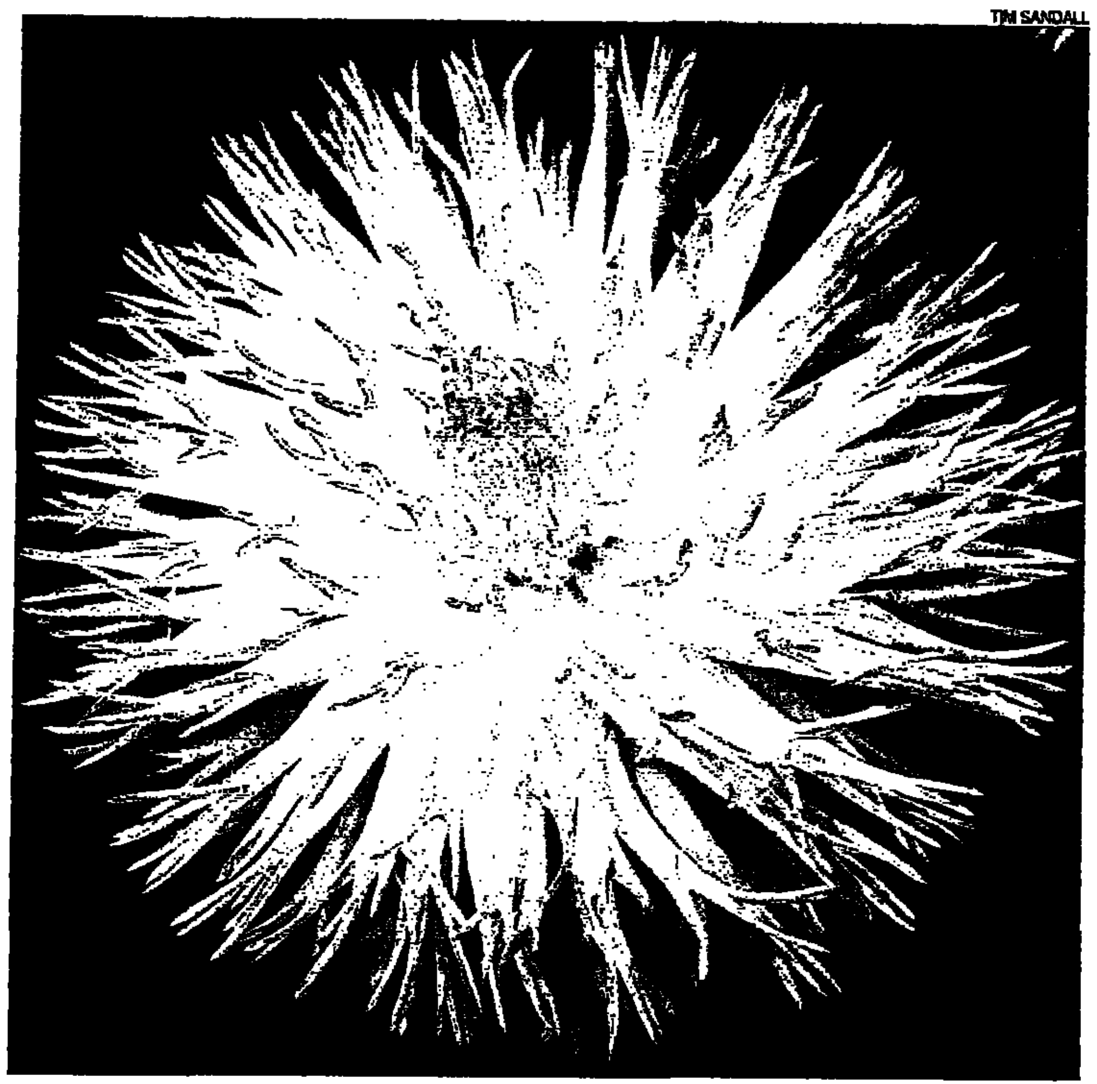
مكنز الأهرام

Nigel Colborn in praise of the much-maligned dahlia — as vibrant showstopper or elegant addition to smart borders

Dahlias bright and beautiful


Alan Buller measures 'Sylvia's Desire' with a "ring of doom"

TIM SANDALL


Dahlias were discovered in Mexico in 1788 by Baron Humboldt. This one is 'Marlene Joy'

Howard Lane, Terry Gillam and Brian Madders judging blooms

"I'm off to the Dahlia Show," I said the other day. "Hmmph!" snorted my haughty gardening acquaintance. "Never look for subtlety in a dahlia — gross, garish things quite without charm." Rather too sweeping a condemnation, I felt, especially when one considers what a long and distinguished record the genus has.

In their native state, dahlias are among the daintiest and most alluring of the Central American wildflowers, but garden forms have been bred to exhibit almost every imaginable colour, shape and flower size, from tiny rounded pompons to giants that look like ill-chosen wedding hats. Some are, frankly, horrible, but of the 500 or more varieties offered by nurseries to amateur gardeners, there remains a mouth-watering selection of cultivars whose elegance could not fail to please the most refined of gardening tastes.

Dahlias have an aristocratic history. The genus is named after Dr Dahl, a pupil of Linnaeus, but was discovered in Mexico in 1788 by Baron Humboldt. The first plants came to Spain, from where the Marchioness of Bute acquired specimens for Britain. These were lost, but the genus was reintroduced in 1804 by Lady Holland and, by the 1830s, three wild species had been distributed around Europe and were used to produce interesting new crosses. Natural variations in colours and shapes gave the dahlia huge potential for further hybridisation and for more than a century, as fancy varieties proliferated, dahlias grew in popularity not only as garden plants, but also for exhibition.

CHIC DAHLIAS

■ Pure species for normal garden hybrids
Dahlia coccinea: vivid scarlet, single blooms
Dahlia merckii: soft lilac blooms with golden centres
■ Seed raised for bedding, sow indoors in late winter
'Redskin': compact, all hues
'Dwarf delight': very compact
■ For mixed borders
'Bishop of Llandaff': Purple-black foliage, scarlet blooms.
'Porcelain': white, rounded petals blushed with mauve.

In the 1950s, every front garden — even the humblest and scruffiest — would sport dahlias. Cottagers planted them among leeks and cabbages; suburbanites bordered their drives with them and public parks bedded them by the acre. On and on, they would bloom, opening flowers day after day through October until the first air frost of autumn converted all that colour into black mush (see Weekend Tips, opposite). But, by the end of the 1960s, when gardening turned lazy and staking, tying, disbudding and earwig control began to look too much like hard work, the dahlia slipped into decline, never to regain its former popularity.

Heralding this change in fashion, the most genteel of our garden gurus began to damn dahlias more roundly than they deserved. Their strong colours, we were told, and outsized flowers failed to sit comfortably in those romantic plantings championed by the neo-Jekyllites. Unjust, of course, because the genus is so varied that there are kinds to suit every gardening style; but the mud stuck and dahlias became a minority interest.

Go to a "dahlias only" show, however, and you will be staggered by the diversity. Rank upon rank of blooms greeted me at the National Dahlia Show held at the Royal Horticultural Society's Hall in Westminster at the beginning of October. How their brightness contrasted with the grey, tired faces of the exhibitors, most of whom had been up all night staging their, hopefully, prize-winning blooms. And herein, I suspect, lies the cause of their decline as garden plants. There are dahlias for exhibitions and dahlias for gardens but never the twain … Show dahlias are raised as a hobby — horticultural, certainly, but more akin to whippet breeding than to the artistic planting design so loved by the genteel classes. George Tomlinson, a fanatical amateur from Cheshire who has exhibited prize blooms for 40 years, told me that to raise dahlias you need to debranch and disbud. Allow only three branches and disbud these to the last bloom. Three flowers per plant, and that's your lot. Then there's the need to cover plants with polythene — hardly conducive to ornamental gardening. George agrees, "but for kicks, there's nothing to beat growing exhibition dahlias", he says.

The shiniest example of dedication was Richard Thomas, a Sussex shepherd who, between looking after a thousand ewes, devotes almost every moment of his spare time to raising show dahlias. "I manage half an hour with my plants each day at teatime," he says, "20 minutes after lunch and usually an hour when I finish work around ten in the evening." "Don't you have any help?" I ask. "Just from the three sheep dogs," he replies.

Dahlia judges are sticklers for bloom size. I watched Alan Buller, a retired policeman with resplendent side whiskers, holding measuring rings over what looked like perfect flowers. There is a two-inch tolerance — too large or too small, and the entry is disqualified. And boy are they strict. Jack Wood, regular correspondent for *Garden News* — the showman's bible — calls the judges "horticultural traffic wardens", and their measuring devices "the rings of doom".

"But what about an ordinary gardener like me?" I ask a gaggle of exhibitors. "What varieties should I grow in my borders?" At first they look at me with puzzled faces. They wonder how I could think of a life where one does not work through the night picking, prinking and displaying blooms before judges arrive early next morning. "Collarettes," suggests one. "Waterlily class," says another, and they point out, among the shouting colours, a collection of flowers so demure and elegant in shape that one could hardly believe they were dahlias. The most alluring, 'Elizabeth Snowden', had a flushed white flower with small central florets surrounding golden stamens. There were others — a primrose collarette, 'Claire de Lune', waterlily kinds in pastel hues and small "cactus" dahlias with thin, tubular petals, as good for gardens as for exhibitions.

To my surprise, I watched the panel of judges select for Best Bloom in Show, not a huge bronze monster but one of these — a pale mauve and white cactus variety called 'Kiwi Gloria', good enough to grace the smartest of borders.

I had hoped to see wild species at the show, especially the scarlet *Dahliacoccinea* or the mauve *D.merckii*. But they were absent, as were the prettier bedding series and such old-fashioned kinds as the dark-leaved red-flowered 'Bishop of Llandaff'. Noting their absence I questioned an exhibitor. "Oh you'll not find anything like that here," he retorted, "those are more yer garden plants."

PETS THAT NEED PEOPLE: WOULD YOU ADOPT A DOG?
Page 11

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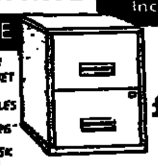

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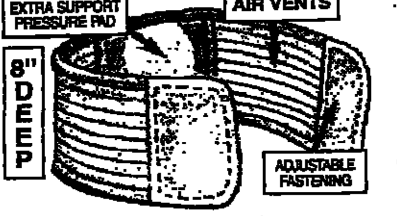

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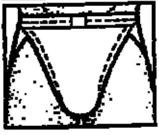

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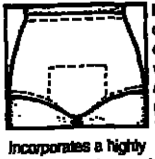

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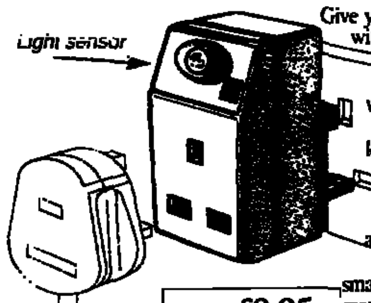

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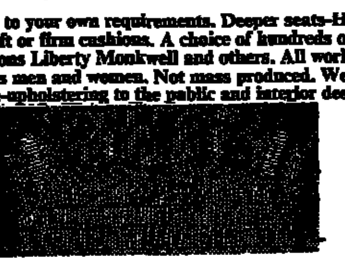

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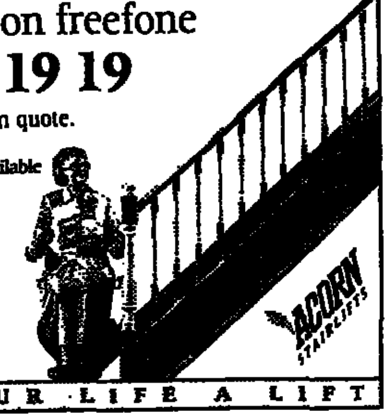

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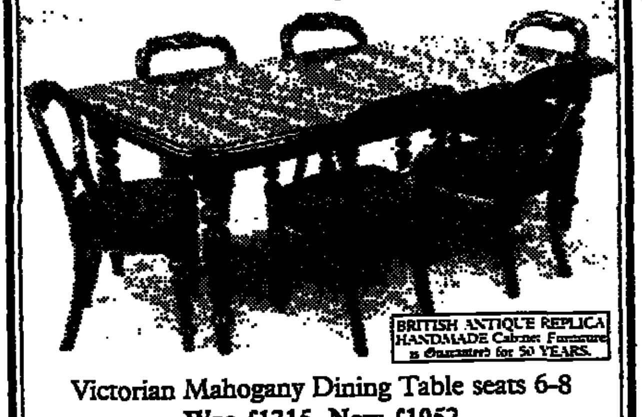
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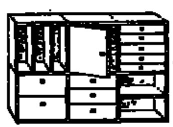

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With rising interest by collectors worldwide in historic gold coins these little pieces of British history will make nice additions to the family's golden treasure chest.

By JOANNE GLOVER

هكذا من الأصل

Dog tired of being homeless

Dogs with image problems can still make excellent pets

Stinky had the sort of image problem spin doctors dread. "When he came to us he had bad skin, cankerous ears, overgrown nails and smelt terribly," says Fiona Macdonald at the National Canine Defence League rescue centre in Shoreham-by-sea, West Sussex.

The 12-year-old black labrador cross was not the most immediately appealing of pets but after several baths, treatment from the vet and local publicity he has gone to a loving home. He is now called Percy. Sadly not all animals are adopted so quickly. Jo Crozier at the RSPCA headquarters in Horsham, West Sussex, says: "If they're fluffy and cute there's usually no problem finding owners. It's the less attractive and older dogs that people are not so interested in but they're just as deserving of a good home and they've often had a very hard time already. Many are abandoned and many are cruelty cases." Last year the RSPCA rehomed 81,943 animals. Rehoming, though, is not just about people choosing the pets they want. It's also a case of whether prospective owners can offer the right environment.

The RSPCA carries out home checks on all would-be owners of dogs, and sometimes cats. But because its 200 branches are registered as separate charities, rules on rehoming vary. Some branches will not allow cats to go to homes on main roads. Some will not allow puppies or certain breeds to go to families with children. "The animal's welfare is top priority and that's how the type of accommodation is considered," Mrs Crozier says. The price of animals varies but is usually around £35-£40 for a cat and £70 for a dog.

The RSPCA issues a leaflet, *A Pet Of Your Own?*, which tells people what to consider before taking on an animal. "Pet ownership takes time, money, commitment and patience. It will change your life," it warns.

Ros Bicen knows all about this because in the past two years she has taken in three dogs and three cats from rescue centres. Tootsie is a three-year-old crossbred terrier which had been badly neglected and had never been house trained. Sherry is an 11-year-old Springer Spaniel which had no fur and was emaciated and without muscle when it came to the RSPCA centre.

"Sherry hadn't been paid any attention at all and had never been walked. When I let her off the lead she had no idea how to respond. There are many animals at the centres which have no problems but I know from experience that if they do have problems you can get over them with care, time, perseverance and affection. My dogs have given me back far more than I've ever given them," says Mrs Bicen, who helps at a rescue centre.

The UK's largest dog welfare charity is the National Canine Defence League. It has 15 rescue centres and about 2,000 dogs at a time for rehoming. Would-be owners are asked to contribute towards vaccinations and neutering. The charity issues guidelines for the care of rescue dogs and a particular leaflet for greyhounds and lurchers. Greyhounds, in particular, are often at the bottom of the pile when it comes to choosing dogs for rehoming. People feel that they need a great deal of exercise but in fact they need two short walks a day.

People are often put off by an animal's appearance — they prefer cuddly dogs, not sporting ones. Rescue centres agree, however, that greyhounds make good pets, just as older animals can.

One way that the league encourages rehoming of mature dogs is through fostering. The league's Linda Capel says: "A lot of people might be put off taking these animals because of the possibility of vet fees. Fostering enables the dog to be rehomed but we will pay vet fees if the dog needs treatment." There is another way to help animals. Dog lovers who are unable to keep a dog at home can sponsor one at a rescue centre.

On October 20, Battersea Dogs Home will open a £6 million kennel for 380 dogs. The average stay for dogs at the home is 40 days, but some are there for more than a year. Dogs cost £35-£70, which includes all injections and for the first three months owners can bring dogs back for free veterinary care.

Dolly, a six-year-old bull terrier, featured on the BBC television programme *Animal Hospital*, was seen by the children's author and book illustrator Lisa Kopper. "When Dolly appeared on television she was in an appalling state. But as soon as I saw her I said 'that's my dog'. She has lots of character," Ms Kopper says.

Mabel is another dog which found a new home, thanks to the BBC. The border collie cross was found abandoned in filthy conditions in an empty flat just before Christmas by the RSPCA. Mabel is now resident on *Blue Peter*. "We're very pleased. Having a rescued mongrel on *Blue Peter* sets an excellent example," an RSPCA spokesman says.

CHRISTIAN DYMOND

TOM WHITE

Ros Bicen with her children Claudia, ten, and Sebastian, seven, and rescued dogs, from left, Sherry, Tootsie and Sheba

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Corri has been at the centre for seven years

THESE two dogs need loving homes.

Corri is a 12-year-old neutered male collie crossed with Alsatian. He is housetrained, good with people and travels well. He has been at the centre for seven years.

Baldyman is a 12-year-old male collie-cross who likes cats, dogs and older children (he sometimes steals food from younger children). Housetrained and a good traveller, he has been at the centre for eight months.

Contact the National Canine Defence League, Brighton Road, Shoreham-by-Sea, West Sussex BN43 5LT (01273 452576).

Baldyman: likes cats

FACT FILE

- RSPCA hotline for nearest rescue centre, 0990 555999.
- National Canine Defence League, 0171-837 0006
- The Dogs Home, Battersea, 0171-622 3626.
- *Animal Hospital* queries to: *Animal Hospital*, BBC TV, Room 4604, 201 Wood Lane, White City, London W12.

PET NEWS

Tea tree treatment

ABORIGINES have used tea tree oil as a natural all-round healer for centuries — it has powerful antiseptic, painkilling and wound healing properties. But now it is the turn of pets. Tea tree oil shampoos and toothpaste are available from pet shops or ring 01285 750007.

Cat cones

IN ITS relentless search for a toy for a mature cat, Pet News will be trying Tip 'n' Totter from PetLove. It combines sound and movement in a nine-inch tall cone with a weighted base, which rolls but never falls over. It costs £8.99 from pet shops or ring 01306 881033.

Bowled over

IT'S not good for large dogs to have to eat at ground level. The XJF Ergonomic Feeder is raised and allows them to dine without bending over. It also makes life easier for dogs with arthritic joints. The bowl costs £8.99 for the smallest size and £12.99 for the Great Dane size. Details: 01909 724211.

Help for hogs

THE British Hedgehog Preservation Society invites Pet News readers to send for free leaflets on how to care for hedgehogs, plus car stickers saying "Don't Squash Me". Write to the society at Knowbury House, Shropshire SY8 3LQ.

JACK CROSSLEY

TIPS ON TAKING THE BEST FAMILY PORTRAIT Page 13

Little bird, big personality

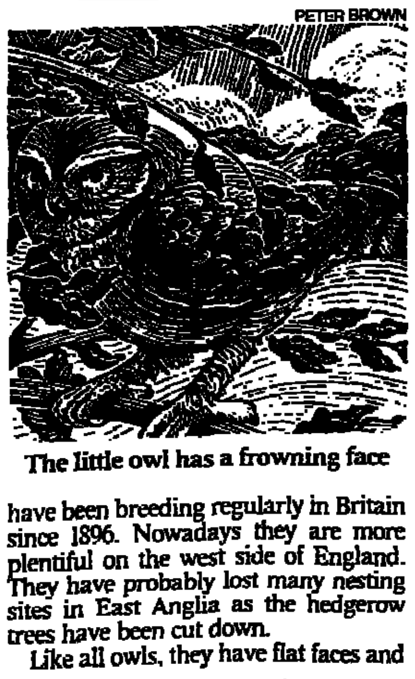
Feather Report

WALKING last week beside a field where the first green lines of wheat were coming through, I suddenly heard a loud "whee-ou" call coming from a wood that curved along the far end of it. I knew it was a little owl, the only British owl that hunts regularly by daylight.

It went on calling, and when I reached the wood, I went cautiously round the edge. There was the bird, perched on a fence-post. It twisted its head round and looked at me for a moment — a stubby little bird, mottled brown with white eyebrows. It seemed to frown at me. Then off it flew across the field, quite noiselessly, dipping up and down in the air. That frowning expression is very characteristic of the little owl. You sometimes get a glimpse of one glaring at you from a field-gate as you drive along a country lane.

Little owls are quite common in England and Wales, though not in Scotland. They are really natives of the continent, and the 10,000 pairs or so that nest here now are descendants of birds that were released by Lord Lilford in Northamptonshire in the 1880s. They have been breeding regularly in Britain since 1896. Nowadays they are more plentiful on the west side of England. They have probably lost many nesting sites in East Anglia as the hedgerow trees have been cut down.

PETER BROWN



The little owl has a frowning face

Like all owls, they have flat faces and shining eyes that look straight forward. Their head and neck seem to form a single feathery column, but in fact they can twist their head round until they are looking backwards. Other birds do not need to do this, because their eyes are on either side of their head.

They do not have any enemies — except tawny owls. But these big brothers will kill them, if they are rivals for a nesting hole in a pollarded tree.

DERWENT MAY

- Feather Reports: A Chronicle of Bird Life from the Pages of The Times *by Derwent May, illustrated by Robin Jacques, is published this week by Robson Books at £12.95.*
- **What's about:** *Birders — watch out for bramblings joining flocks of feeding chaffinches. Twitchers — black-and-white warbler, St Mary's, Isles of Scilly; red-eyed vireo, Porthgwarra, Cornwall; Western Bonelli's warbler, Landguard, Suffolk. Details from Birdline, 0891 700222. Calls cost 40p a minute cheap rate, 50p at all other times.*

A Vet Writes

Avoiding catastrophe

"Curiosity killed the cat" contains more than a grain of truth. In spite of their reputation for wisdom and good sense cats don't find it difficult to get into trouble.

A cat can't resist a hole. It wants to find out what's down there. Then, while it's having a snooze, someone closes the trap door, nails the boards back or bricks up the hole in the wall. Lucky cats are released within hours — indignant, never grateful. Unlucky ones stay incarcerated for days. If builders, electricians or central heating engineers are at work, make sure the cat's visible before they down tools. It's happened to me. My kitten got into the cavity between the house walls. A plumber had left a floorboard out of place. Miaowing noises from an air-brick gave the game away. The cat would not leave the way it went in, so a kitten-sized hole had to be chopped in the air-brick to allow an unrepentant and slightly-ruffled cat to escape.

A washing machine or tumble drier offers a draught free cat-bed. Lucky cats are found before the door is closed. Unfortunates can be injured or killed. Check before pushing the button.

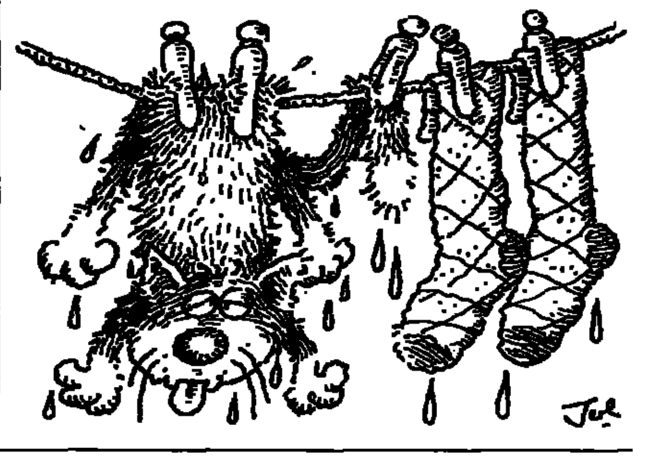
Cats seem better at climbing up trees than climbing down and often the fire brigade is called. I'm not sure this is wise. The cat may panic and climb higher or fall. It's better to wait. Once everyone's gone there's a good chance the cat will find its own way down — slowly and carefully. If dusk falls it can be encouraged with a torch. It will follow the light towards the ground.

Cats have a remarkable ability to land on their feet after falling from great heights, sometimes safely, but not always. Every summer a few cats fall off window ledges trying to catch a passing bird or butterfly. Think twice before letting Tiddles sunbathe on the balcony.

A threaded needle is a cat-hazard. The dangling thread attracts it. The animal eats it — with the needle attached. Most needles stick in the back of the mouth or the tongue. The cat is salivating, pawing at his face with a thread hanging from his lips. Never pull the thread. The cat might need an anaesthetic before your vet can recover the needle. The thread is a line to the needle.

If the needle negotiates the mouth it usually travels through the intestine until it is held up at the anus. Straining and discomfort are the main signs plus a thread hanging out, once again pointing the way. Don't pull it. The message to every tailor or seamstress is unthread your needles when sewing is finished.

JAMES ALLCOCK



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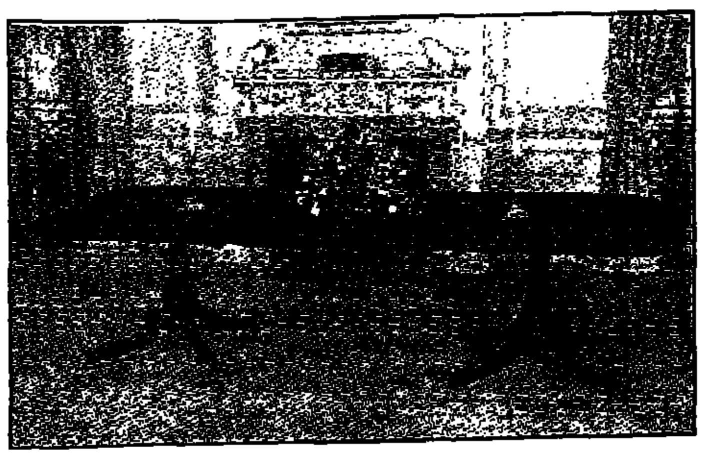

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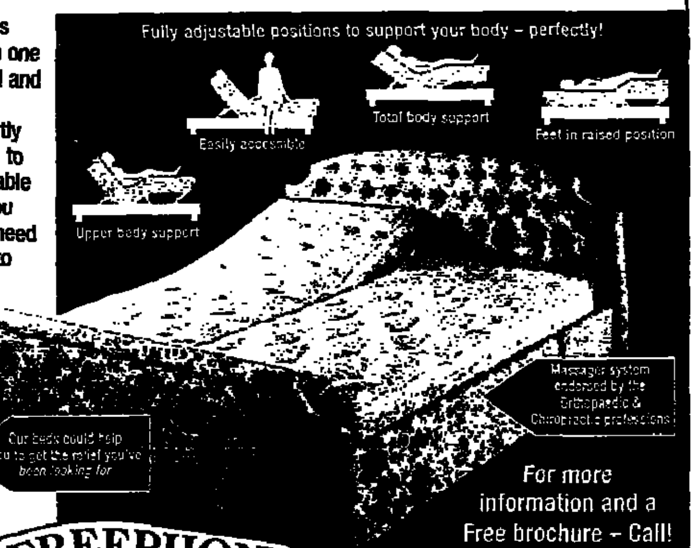

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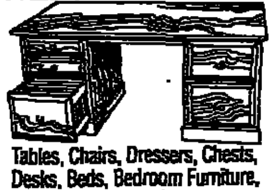

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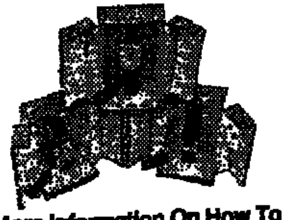

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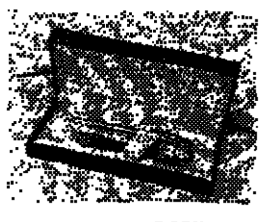

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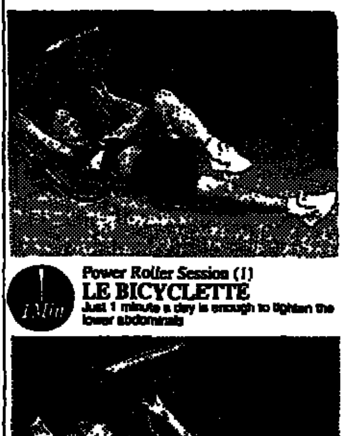

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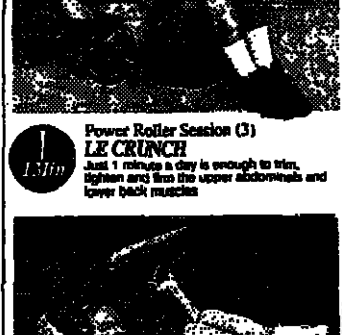

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The slug that will move at more than 300mph

Page 3

CAR 96

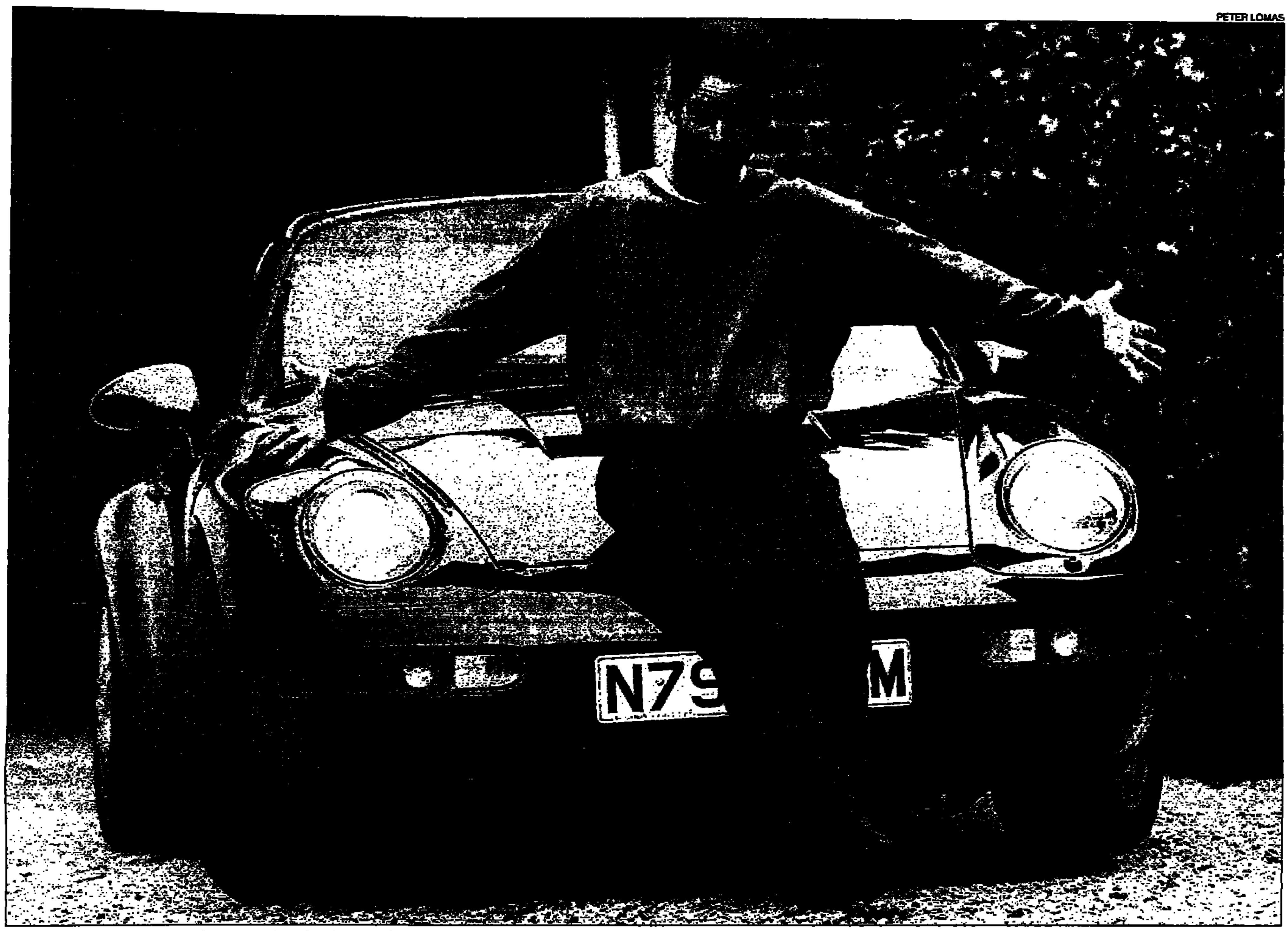
How Toad got back on the road in style

Page 5

SATURDAY OCTOBER 12 1996

One man's problems began with an £11m lottery win. **Jennai Cox** and **Kevin Eason** on a chapter of accidents

It could be you . . . unfortunately, it was



PETER LOMAS

Karl Crompton and one of the Porsches that he bought with his winnings. His current personal transport is a 50cc moped borrowed from a friend until he is back on two legs again

Karl Crompton's luck on the road ran out the day he picked up his lottery cheque for £11 million. The money was his chance to indulge a lifelong passion for fast cars and motorbikes.

But as he nursed his battered and bruised body yesterday, Karl was contemplating an immediate future confined to taxis shuttling him back and forth between his luxurious home and the studios of Channel 4's *The Big Breakfast*, where he is a presenter.

Because each time he buys another exotic bike or high-powered car, something goes horribly wrong. Karl, 23, appears to be Britain's unluckiest lucky man every time he gets behind the wheel of a car or straddles a motorcycle.

Even he admits: "I don't know what happened to me over the past five months since I won the lottery. I have just become so accident prone."

Today, the numbers for the 100th National Lottery will be drawn, a competition that has given dozens of people the money to buy the cars they always dreamt of. Karl was no different: as soon as he had picked up his cheque in May, he was in the showrooms.

But that was when the problems started:

● A motorcycling enthusiast, Karl's first buy was a Suzuki GSXR 750. Within hours of being delivered, it was smashed to bits and thrown into a hedge by vandals who caused hundreds of pounds' worth of damage.

● As soon as the Suzuki was fixed, he took it to the Donington race track in the Midlands to enjoy the power of his new toy. "I hadn't ridden for a couple of years and I thought I could do with the practice," he says. He obviously could — because he crashed. "The bike just went from under me." He wasn't hurt, but the Suzuki was in a bad way . . . again.

● As a potential customer, he decided to give a Porsche 911 a test drive at Oulton Park in Cheshire. That's a 170mph 911 . . . on a race track: you guessed, it went wrong again. "The instructor was telling me to go faster and faster. He kept saying: 'Put your foot down'." Karl did and the car was soon going round the circuit but in ever-decreasing circles. Fortunately, car and driver emerged shaken but unhurt.

● After that experience, Karl decided he was safer on the bike and took to the Suzuki again. The afternoon was sunny and all was well until he skidded and crashed into on-coming traffic. This time the results were serious. "I was lying in the road in absolute agony, grabbing my leg while passers-by were helping people out of the car I crashed with," he says. The driver and passenger of the car were unhurt, but Karl had to go to hospital to have a dislocated shoulder put back into place under anaesthetic and an operation to have metal rods inserted into his left leg to help repair torn knee ligaments.

After three weeks in plaster, Karl faces months of physiotherapy — and time to contemplate the rest of his motoring life. "It is so frustrating not being able to drive," he says, "especially with the machines I still have around waiting for me."

Those machines are a beautiful £17,500 Ducati 916SP motorcycle and a 155mph BMW M3 convertible, which he bought for £48,000 as a runabout, which both stand unused in the garage.

If that is not enough to bear, Karl has been forced to use a slightly more humble mode of personal transport to get him around his home town of Blackpool: a 50cc moped. He did not even have to dip into his £11 million fortune for his 30mph machine, simply borrowing it from a pal until he is back on two legs again. He says: "I can manage all right if I sit well back so I can balance my crutches. It is not quite so exciting — but at least I feel pretty safe. When I get back to normal, I'll have to drive more carefully — well, maybe for the first two weeks."

Changing wheels: Karl with his Suzuki . . . and leaving hospital with a broken leg

NOTHING FANCY

Daniels: "It might have upset the neighbours"

Ryan, left: "They just stand in the garage"

Not every lottery winner is in a Rolls-Royce showroom within minutes of getting the big prize. Some winners have more humble aspirations and choose everything from a scooter to a caravan.

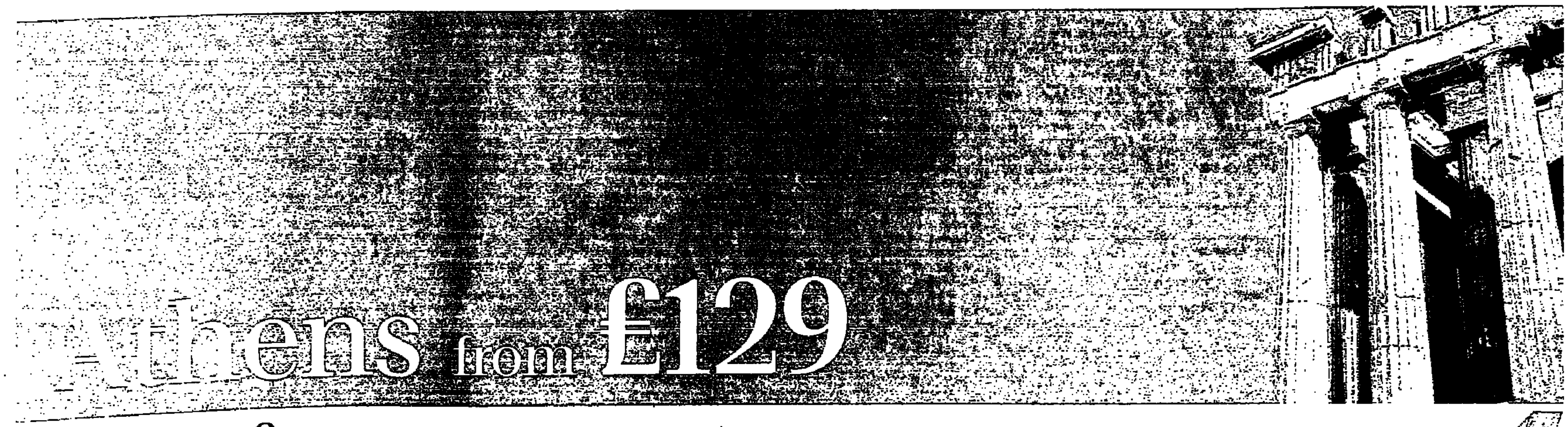
Brian Daniels, who won £500,000, refused to splash out on anything exotic and decided to buy a new Ford Maverick and a Bailey Pageant Champagne caravan so he and wife Penny could tour Holland. "We didn't want a posh new car — it might have upset the neighbours," Penny says.

True love also knows no motoring bounds: Craig Bennett, 25, won £42,000 and bought his girlfriend, Sue Newman, a Piaggio Typhoon Sport 50cc scooter — then bought two for himself, abandoning his £200 banger for a Vespa TS 125cc and a P200 moped. Neil Hyatt, 19, was also unimpressed with his £100,000: he bought his little £5,000 Fiat Cinquecento new fog lights, a body kit and a £2,500 car stereo system.

Cars, though, were too painful to contemplate for Lee Ryan. He won £6.2 million but also got a conviction for handling stolen cars around the same time. He has now sold all the cars he bought with his fortune — including a £180,000 Ferrari Testarossa — to rid himself of bad memories and intends to take to the skies instead in helicopters. The 33-year-old says roads are too clogged to enjoy supercars anyway: "You lose so much money on them and half the time they just stand in the garage."

LOTTERY GEAR

- **Most popular cars with lottery winners are Mercedes, BMWs and Jaguars.**
- **After a new house, buying a car is the most popular luxury winners spend money on.**
- **Thirty million people play the lottery weekly, spending £6.7 billion over the first 100 weeks plus another £2.02 billion on scratch cards.**
- **There have been more than 120 million lottery wins — though most are for £10, enough for three gallons of petrol and a bit over to spend in the forecourt shop.**
- **Lottery grants have gone to the Museum of Transport in Basingstoke (£5.5 million), the National Motor Museum (£250,000) plus £70,000 for another museum in Scotland.**



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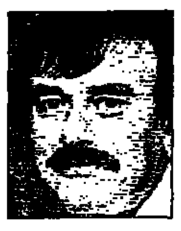
What is the possible point of taking away a licence from some joyrider who simply ignores it in the first place?

Frankly, they don't give a damn

DRIVEN TO DISTRACTION



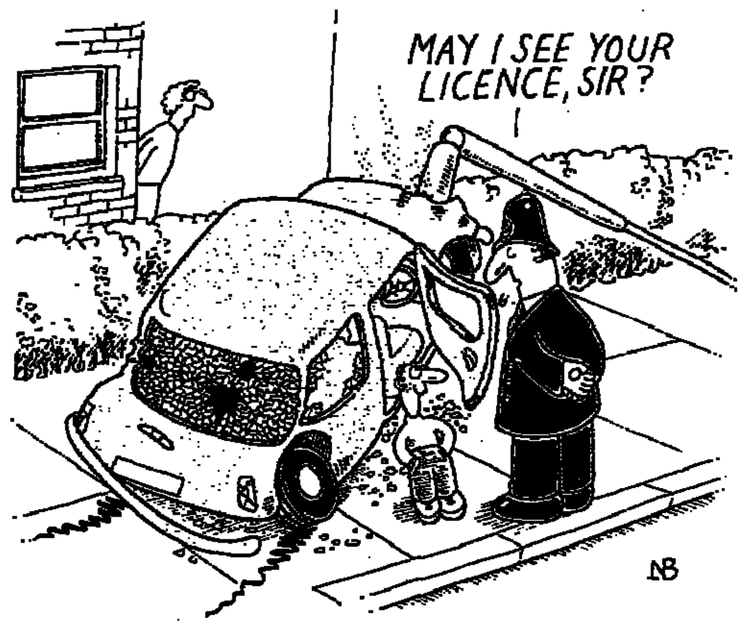
Peter Barnard

Two items of news and a television documentary this week have produced some interesting revelations about the British attitude to cars, crime and links between the two. The Government's proposal to take away the driving licences of people who commit burglaries sounds reasonable enough on first hearing, but turns into a nonsensical piece of populism after a minute's thought.

Part of the reason why the proposal is silly was to be found in a BBC documentary, *X Cars*, on Monday night. Another factor was raised in a news item on Tuesday, when the Police Complaints Authority called for a review of procedure in chasing stolen vehicles after a patrol car ran into the back of an innocent driver's vehicle during a chase, killing the driver.

An increasing number of burglaries are committed by teenagers, many of them too young to hold a driving licence. Therefore the courts would be taking away something that the burglars do not possess. One can reasonably assume that many of the teenagers looting houses for video recorders, television sets and the like have with them a vehicle in which these items can be taken away — quite often, a stolen car.

Which brings me to *X Cars*. Here we saw frightening examples of the real, the underlying problem of crime, which is that the individuals who commit these crimes are completely devoid of any fear that they might be caught, or of what might happen to them when they are.


MAY I SEE YOUR LICENCE, SIR?
NB

In one case I watched a Greater Manchester Police patrol car chasing a car driven by an individual who looked to be about 16 or 17. The chase happened at high speed through busy streets at night. The driver of the car in question not only kept going, he also found time to give the rest of us a clear indication of his attitude to the police, or any other authority. At various times he craned his neck out of the window, shouting at the police officers. When he was not doing that, his right arm was extended through the window making gestures which I do not need to describe here. This does not suggest he had the least concern for the police, the law, any judge he might face, or the rest of the population.

The case of the driver who died after being hit by a police car during a chase is, of course, tragic and I see that the PCA believes the police car was being driven at an "indefensible" speed. I cannot speak to that for I do not know the details, but I do know that the police face a dilemma.

The speed of any car chase is dictated by the pursued car. Are the police to give up chasing criminals when there might be danger to innocent parties? If so, they are handing our streets over to joyriders and others: would their unhampered activities behind the wheel be less likely to lead to deaths?

All of this matters.We are paying higher insurance premiums. The owners of the parked cars we saw wrecked on TV by joyriders devoid of insurance will find themselves either paying for repairs themselves or having their premiums hiked. If caught, the joyrider gets probation.

Mr Howard may get a round of applause for saying that burglars will lose their licences, but the real problem is that the existing law is not enforced. A police superintendent pointed out this week that whereas the maximum sentence for burglary is 14 years in jail, the average sentence for a burglar committing his third offence is 18 months, of which he will serve nine.

The level of crime in this country is undoubtedly exaggerated by meaningless statistical comparisons, but to the extent that there is a crime explosion it certainly involves thefts of, and from, cars. Taking away a document from people who regard bureaucracy as a joke is merely painting rotten wood.

Addressing the problem

Your car insurance may cost a lot more than for another driver just like you. It depends on the street where you live, says **Kevin Eason**

Drivers in some parts of Britain are condemned to paying insurance policies more than £280 a year higher than in other areas.

A survey by the AA shows huge regional differences in insurance costs, with motorists paying the price for living in danger cities where car crime is rife and the likelihood of accidents is higher.

While the driver of a secondhand Ford Escort in Liverpool has to find £302 for his annual comprehensive cover, the driver of the same car in Aberdeen will pay £129 for exactly the same policy. In fact, premiums in Aberdeen have dropped in the six months since March by an average £29, a signal that those areas with the best records are enjoying steadily falling costs as insurers target the worst risks.

Six months ago, the gap between the top and bottom was £253; in September, it widened to £284. Mark Wood, managing director of AA Insurance, says: "Rates are polarising. High premiums are increasing, but, as our survey shows, insurance costs are falling in the most competitive areas of the market."

The AA checked on premium prices for 44 postcode areas around Britain and Northern Ireland to calculate the average cost for a typical couple: the driver would be a 37-year-old factory worker, who has held a licence since he was 18, which is clean, and has full no claims. His wife, aged 35, is named on the policy for the Escort 1.6LX, which is four years old and worth about £4,750. They cover 10,000 miles annually and have a free extension of cover for foreign holidays.

Inevitably, Belfast and Bangor in Northern Ireland fill the top three slots for highest car insurance costs. Insuring the sample Escort would cost the AA's typical couple £413 for a fully comprehensive policy.

But Liverpool tops the league of mainland cities with premium prices up since March by £13-a-year. Manchester is not far behind with premiums costing typical couples £292 on average, an increase over March's costs of just £3.

The AA discovered that only 11 of the areas reviewed had suffered increased prices, while costs fell in 28 areas. Where premiums were up, the typical increase was between £5 and £7, although Middlesbrough, 15th in the league, had suffered a rise of £18 to an average £211.

Living in a city centre exposes motorists to more chance of car crime, while the opportunity for collecting an unfortunate ding to the bodywork is enormous on congested and often narrow streets. According to the AA, drivers in city centres pay on average £40 a year more than motorists who escape to the suburbs — and the gap is widening.

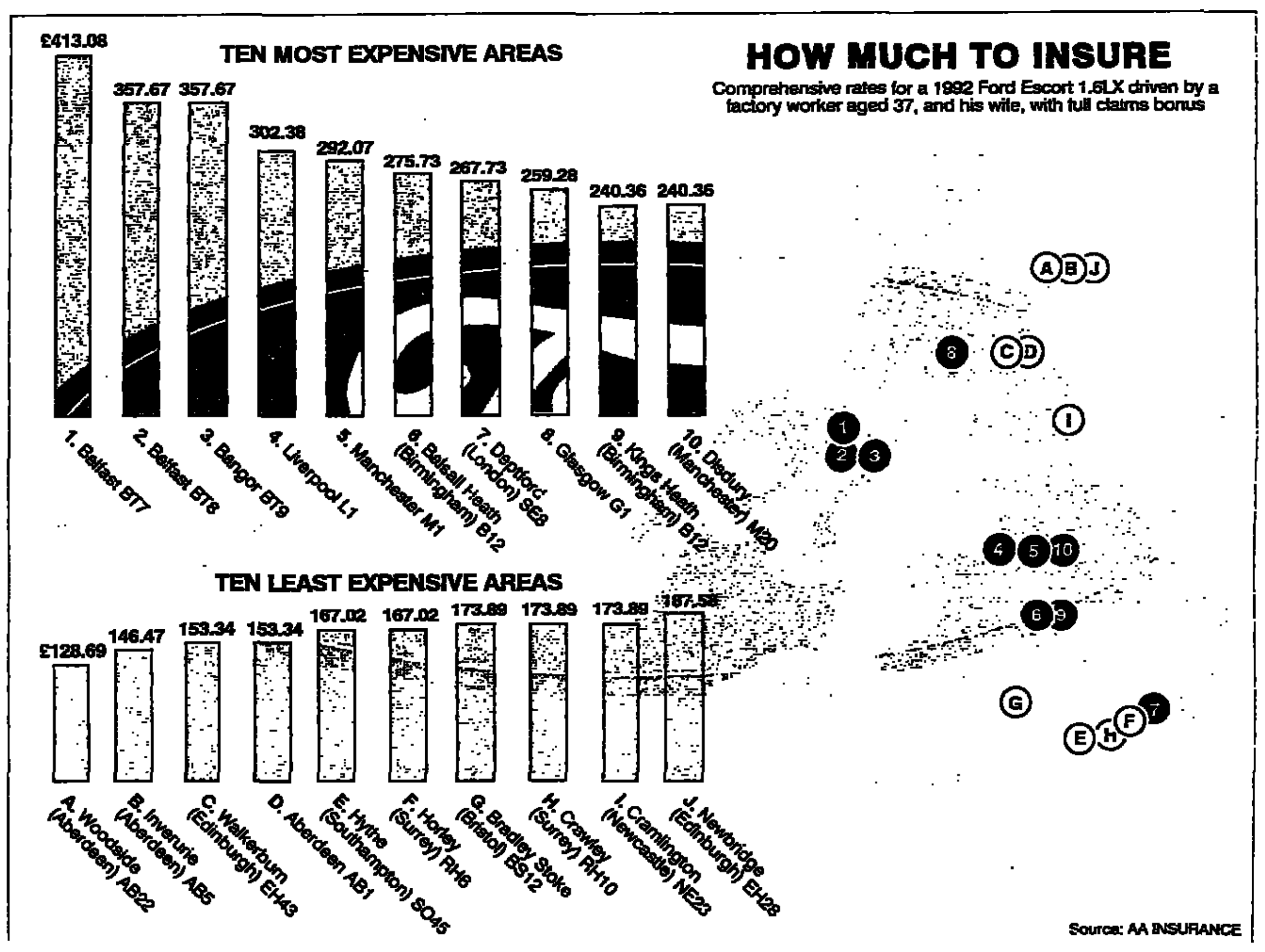
Premiums for the sample Escort for the AA's typical couple who live in a city centre average £236 compared with just £196 for the couple who move to leafy suburbs. Six months ago, those premiums were £238 and £212 — a gap of just £26. Brummies living in the tough, inner-city district of Balsall Heath could save £88 a year by decamping to the relative tranquillity of Solihull, while Liverpudlians who can move to Aigburth could save £84.

> 'They have identified places that will cost them money'

"Clearly, insurers look for ways to cut costs for as many people as they can by targeting the worst risks," Wood says. "They have looked at the rate of crimes and incidents across the country and identified those places where there are cars which are going to cost them money, either because they are subjected to crimes or because they are most often driven in cities where traffic is dense and the chances of an accident are pretty high, a judgment made by claim forms already on file.

"The downside is that people in those areas have to pay more, but the upside is that people in places where their cars are relatively safe are not subsiding crimes and accidents which are nothing to do with them."

Strangely, the cost of insuring a car in Wimbledon, home of tennis and the Wombles, is the same as for Newcastle, one of the worst areas in Britain for car crime. Although down by £49, drivers in Wimbledon are still paying an average £210, exactly like those in central Newcastle, where premiums have dropped £37 to £210. Could this be anything to do with the influence of Vinnie Jones, Wimbledon FC's leg-biting defender?



Source: AA INSURANCE

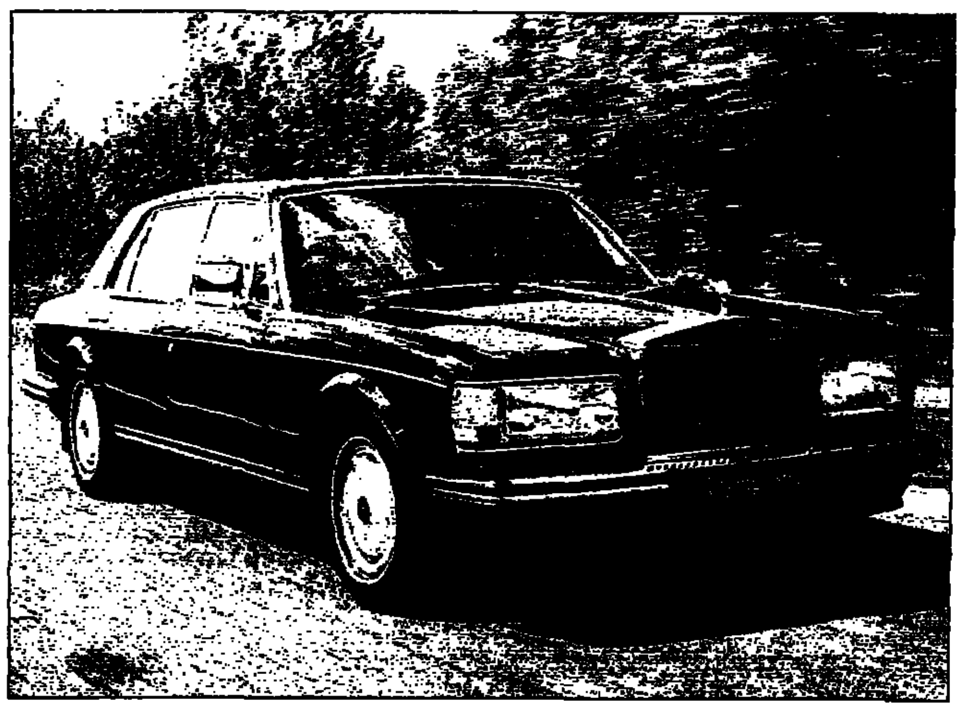
Young, confident professionals take sales back to the booming Eighties

High-class cars are on a Roll

The days of wine and Rolls-es look as though they are on their way back, *writes Kevin Eason.* Sales of Rolls-Royce and Bentley cars, some of the most expensive models on the market, are surging, giving an indication that good times are starting to roll, even if Britain is not yet booming.

Rolls-Royce says British sales are up 34 per cent in the first nine months of this year, not in itself an indicator of change for the better in the economy, but the figures show that someone, somewhere in the country is enjoying a return to the hedonistic days of the champagne-swilling 1980s.

At the bottom of the market, depression still reigns: retail sales to ordinary customers last month dipped 6.2 per cent, a sign that registrations are still being bolstered by company car fleets. At the top, Rolls-Royce sales have jumped to 555 cars, even though it retails models priced between £100,000 and £220,000.



Rolls-Royce: buyers are prepared to pay extra for bespoke wood and leather interiors

Yet it is not the traditional "fat cats" of industry who are opening their cheque books. Rolls-Royce says that buyers are a new breed of young entrepreneurs and professionals, with some prepared to pay extra to have their cars tailored to the colour scheme of their choice, with bespoke wood and leather interiors costing £3,000 and more.

A company spokesman says: "People immediately think of fat cats, but actually our customers are very different. We tend to get orders today from the heads of small companies, such as Bloggs Engineering or Bloggs Computing."

Professionals and entrepreneurs whose confidence in the future is growing appear to be driving the resurgence of sales for cars, which cost as much as most people's houses.

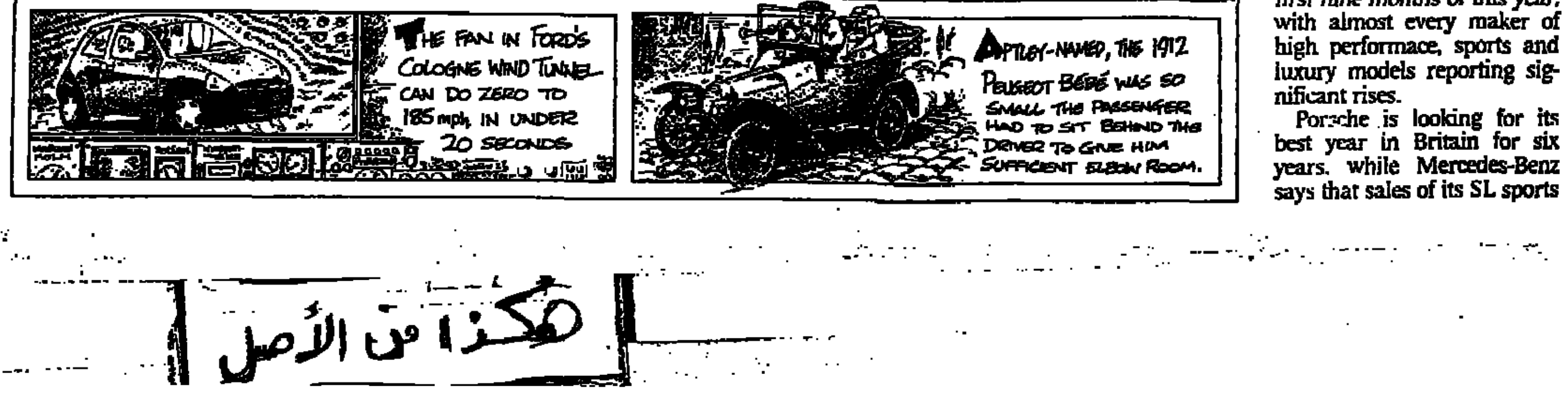
Sales in what the motor industry calls the High Luxury Sector — which includes Rolls-Royce, expensive Mercedes, BMWs, Porsche, Daimler-Jaguar V12 limousines and Aston Martin — are ahead 16.6 per cent to 3,211 cars in the first nine months of this year, with almost every maker of high performace, sports and luxury models reporting significant rises.

Porsche is looking for its best year in Britain for six years, while Mercedes-Benz says that sales of its SL sports cars, which retail at between £55,000 and £100,000, are up nearly 11 per cent, at more than 1,000, on the same time last year.

A Porsche spokesman says: "There are a lot of professional people, such as doctors and lawyers, buying, and it is not just cash. Lots of people are trading in and looking for finance."

That confidence at the top of the market is spreading through the industry too, underlined by the plethora of glamorous models arriving in the showrooms. During the recession, carmakers concentrated on functional vehicles at rock-bottom prices. While the pressure remains on prices, the floodgates have opened on launches of sports cars, coupés, people-movers and even GTIs, which have started to arrive in large numbers.

AUTOFAX by David Long and Les Evans


MODERN SCALEXTRIC RACERS ARE DESIGNED WITH THE SAME COMPUTER SOFTWARE THAT THE McLAREN TEAM USES FOR ITS F1 CARS...
MORE THAN 20 YEARS AFTER IT SMASHED THE BROOKLANDS LAP RECORD, JOHN COBB'S MIGHTY 24-LITRE NAPIER-RAILTON WAS EMPLOYED AS A MOBILE TEST-BED FOR MILITARY PARACHUTES...
THE FAN IN FORD'S COLOGNE WIND TUNNEL CAN DO ZERO TO 185 mph IN UNDER 20 SECONDS
APTLY-NAMED, THE 1912 PEUGEOT BÉBÉ WAS SO SMALL THE PASSENGER HAD TO SIT BEHIND THE DRIVER TO GIVE HIM SUFFICIENT ELBOW ROOM.

AA GRIDLOCK GUIDE

● LONDON
A101 *Rotherhithe* Tunnel. Closed completely on Sunday and Monday from midnight until 5am.**A205** Dulwich. Restrictions for resurfacing work on Thurlow Park Road with various restrictions in place, allow for delays in both directions.
A400 Kentish Town. Resurfacing on Fortress Road means southbound traffic is being diverted from the Archway roundabout and northbound from Camden Road.
A406 East Finchley. Traffic down to a single lane on North Circular Road at various locations between the A1 and Colney Hatch Lane.
A4005 Harrow. Temporary lights on Headstone Road at junction with Hindes Road for resurfacing work.

● SOUTH-EAST
M4 Berkshire. Entry and exit slip roads at the Reading East (A329M) junction closed between 9pm and 6am *in both directions*, diversions are in operation.
A4 Reading. Restrictions and lane closures for work the Hogarth Roundabout and Burfield Road. Expect delays at peak periods.
M25 Kent. Contraflow between Dartford and M20 junctions for major roadworks in both directions, with occasional slip road closures as well. Expect regular delays.
A329 Oxfordshire. Cholsey and Wallingford Lane closures with temporary lights for roadworks. Except peak delays.
M26 Surrey. Restrictions and lane closures both ways between Godstone and the A3 as major widening work continues along the 19-mile stretch.

● SOUTH-WEST
A39 Cornwall. Restrictions with temporary lights near Davidstow for resurfacing work.
A381 Teignmouth, Devon. Restrictions for roadworks between Salcombe Dip and Inverteign Drive.
M5 Gloucestershire. Contraflow between Bristol West and Clevedon junctions as major road works continue, with a 50mph limit across the Avonmouth Bridge.
A438 Newtown, Tewkesbury, Gloucestershire. Temporary lights outside the superstore on for roadworks.
A303 Yarnbury Hill, Wiltshire. Contraflow for major road works between Wylye and Winterbourne Stoke. Expect regular delays.

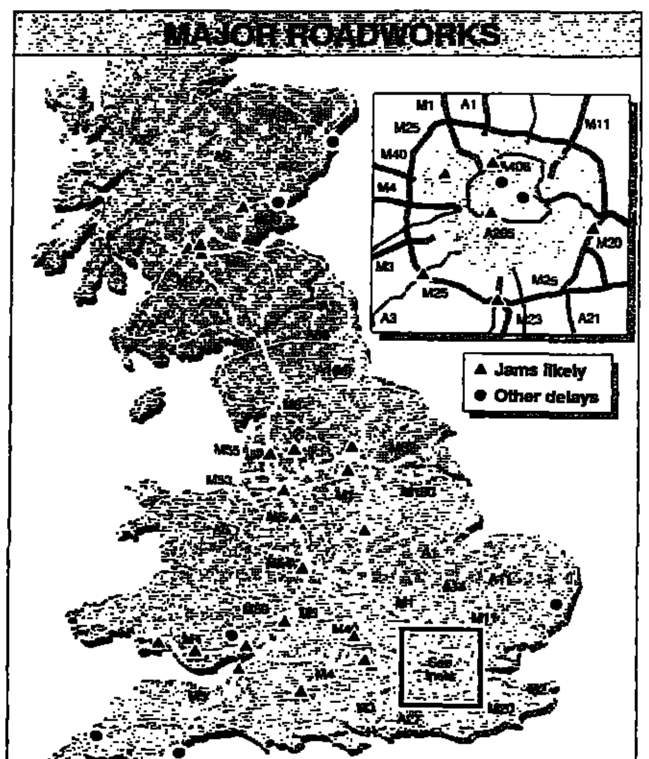
● MIDLANDS & EAST ANGLIA
A500 Staffordshire. Contraflow on the D-road between Talke and Stoke-on-Trent as roadworks continue. Expect regular delays.
M6 Cheshire. Carriageway reduced to three lanes in the widening work near the Thelwall Viaduct between the Lymm and Croft junctions.
A6 *Lockington, Leicestershire.* Contraflow from just north of the M1 junction 24 to Sawley Island (B6540) as major roadworks continue, with no right turn into *Donnington Lane.*
A144 Halesworth, Suffolk. Temporary lights on London Raod for gas main work will cause delays.
A41 Wolverhampton. Temporary lights on Bilston Road between Eagle Street and Chillington Street for canal bridge strengthening work.

● NORTH
M6 Lancashire. Lane closures both ways for repair *work between* the *M61* and M55 junctions will cause delays as traffic builds at peak periods.
A679 Rose Grove, Burnley, Lancashire. Lane closures for water main work on Accrington Road at Liverpool Road junction will cause delays at peak periods, especially from the M65 at junction 9.
A635 Barnsley. Doncaster Road closed outbound for resurfacing work, with di*versions operating via the A61* Sheffield Road. Expect peak time delays.
M1 West Yorkshire. Long-term roadworks continue around the Leeds junction with lane and speed restrictions. Expect delays on the M1, M621 and Dewsbury Road.

● WALES
M4 South Wales. Contraflow with traffic down to two lanes in both directions as major roadworks continue be*tween the Bridgend and* Llantrisant junctions.
A472 Pontypool. Contraflow between Pontemoile and the Heron roundabout. Expect lengthy delays, especially from the A4042.
M4 Monmouthshire. Lane closures between Magor and Newport junctions as major widening work continues. Expect regular rush hour delays.
A4067 Swansea. Contraflow with traffic down to a single lane at Ynysforgan near junction 45 of the M4, for construction work. Expect delays at peak times.

● SCOTLAND
A90 Aberdeen. Restrictions and lane closdures on the Bridge of Don for strengthening work.
A92 Dundee. Lane closure southbound on Tay road bridge. Expect delays at peak periods.
M77 Glasgow. No right turn at J23 from the M77 on to *Drumbeck Road, with traffic* having to continue on the M8 westbound to J24.
A74 Dumfries & Galloway. Traffic reduced to a single lane each way between Millbank and Paddysrickle for roadworks. Expect delays at peak periods.
A80 Near Muirhead, Lanarkshire. Contraflow for roadworks between Glasgow and Stirling starting at 8pm on Friday and finishing 6am on Monday. Expect delays.
A9 Perth. Restrictions in both directions between Perth and the Highland boundary at various locations.

MAJOR ROADWORKS



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NEWS IN BRIEF

Ford's milestone

FORD this week celebrated making its 250 millionth vehicle. At Dagenham in Essex, where the company makes the Fiesta, Geoff Hurst, England's 1966 World Cup hero, and boxer Frank Bruno watched the plant's 10 millionth car come off the line — a Fiesta 1.4 Ghia X, which will go into the company's heritage museum.

Veteran auction

AN AUCTION should guarantee even more productive years for a trio of veterans with a combined age of 274 years. Brooks is selling on October 15 at Olympia: a 1904 De Dion Bouton Model Y 6hp rear entrance tonneau; a Bayard 9hp two-seater from that year, and a 1906 Darracq 8/10hp two-seat tourer. The cars are among the oldest to come up for sale recently.

Racing selection

WHAT does a racing driver drive? Well, Jean Alesi, Benetton's top man, was spotted recently at P and A Wood, the classic Rolls-Royce specialists, browsing through a collection of Fifties and Sixties limousines.

Chairman's choice

HALF Britain's company chairmen drive a Jaguar, according to a survey by W.F. Caroon, the motor industry consultants. Four in ten MDs also choose the British marque, which has been under assault from Mercedes-Benz and BMW. Given that nine in ten Jaguar sales are to company fleets in this country, that is good news for a company voted Britain's top manufacturer this week in the Manufacturing Industry Achievement Awards.

هكذا من الأصل

Tomorrow has no wheels on it

Helen Mound races fast forward 100 years to see the 300mph car of the future

THIS IS "Concept 2096", the car experts claim will be on Britain's roads 100 years from now. It will travel at up to 300mph inches from the car in front without a driver at the controls or a single safety feature, on roads that don't have traffic lights or road signs.

Concept 2096 was commissioned by the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders to celebrate 100 years of the British motor industry and designed and produced by the final year automotive design students at Coventry University. The futuristic car will be unveiled at the British International Motor Show next week, alongside the 1896 Daimler, the first car produced in Britain.

Roger King, Director of Public Affairs at the SMMT, says: "Concept 2096 will be indicative of the dramatic changes we expect to occur in the next century."

A DETAILED study for the year 2096 gave the design brief for the car. Research covered issues such as work patterns, transport systems, the environment and advancing technology. Results included a transport system that offered single trip, daily, weekly and monthly rented vehicles; more affordable cars; *driverless taxis and commer*cial traffic controlled by computers, which means traffic lights, speed limits and road signs were no longer needed while railway routes became part of the road system.

Concept 2096 is powered by an electric motor rechargeable on the move via "roadside senders" — systems, possibly using microwaves, firing bursts of energy at the vehicle as it sped past, rather than relying on the permanent contact with a third rail or overhead wires which trains use now.

The car has no wheels; speed, suspension, steering and braking all rely on a curious malleable material (yet to be invented) called "slug drive". The motor would set up wave patterns through the material, moving the vehicle in the same way as a slug, snail or snake. Variations in the pattern adjusts speed and direction. The slug drive's resistance on the road could be altered by a computer if it detected slippery conditions or rough surfaces.

Controls are managed by a *driverless navigation comput*er so there is no steering wheel — and no need for a licence or to be able to drive conventional vehicles: motorists of the future just get in, press the buttons and point the slug where it needs to go, choosing destination and preferred routes: scenic, most economical, *fastest*.

The computer also has a voice-recognition system, which means only authorised users can instruct the car where to go — which means the end of theft.

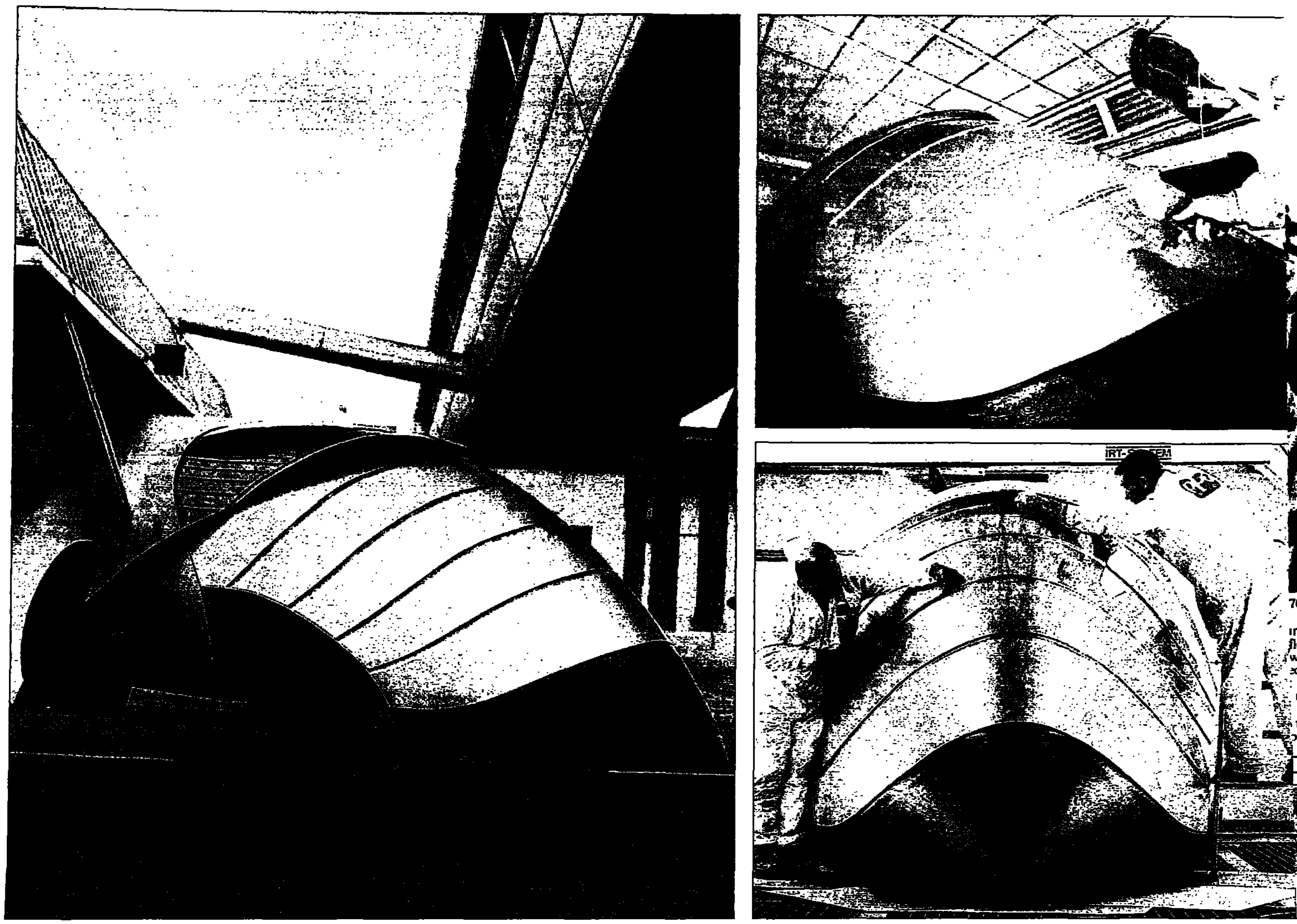
Concept 2096 would run on a road management system designed to control the speed, *stopping distances and direc*tion of all vehicles on the road, making safety features such as bumpers, crumple zones, even lights, redundant.

Experts claim that motorways could increase their efficiency by as much as 50 per cent, with the computer navigation system because it *would allow vehicles to travel* close together — even touching — at high speeds, enabling more cars on to the roads.

The interior of the concept car is described as an extension of the home with facilities for television, video games and video-conferencing. Because there is no steering wheel or *engine, the entire car is dedi*cated to passenger comfort.

It can also change shape to ensure it travels using the most efficient aerodynamics and its exterior paint is a unique formula developed by PPG, the world's largest automotive paint maker, which can change colour to suit its *environment*.

As if that isn't space-age enough, the glass area has a coating which can remain opaque so passengers can see out, or become coloured, resulting in a curious-looking "slug" which bears little resemblance to cars today.



No steering wheel, no brakes, no lights, no crumple zones . . . in Concept 2096, controlled and powered by computers, passengers will just punch in their destination, then sit back and watch the video

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Alan Copps on the prototype £10,000 sports car that could be on the road next year

Concept in touch with reality

THIS lightweight sports car might look like one of those concepts specially made for motor shows, then consigned to some dusty back room.

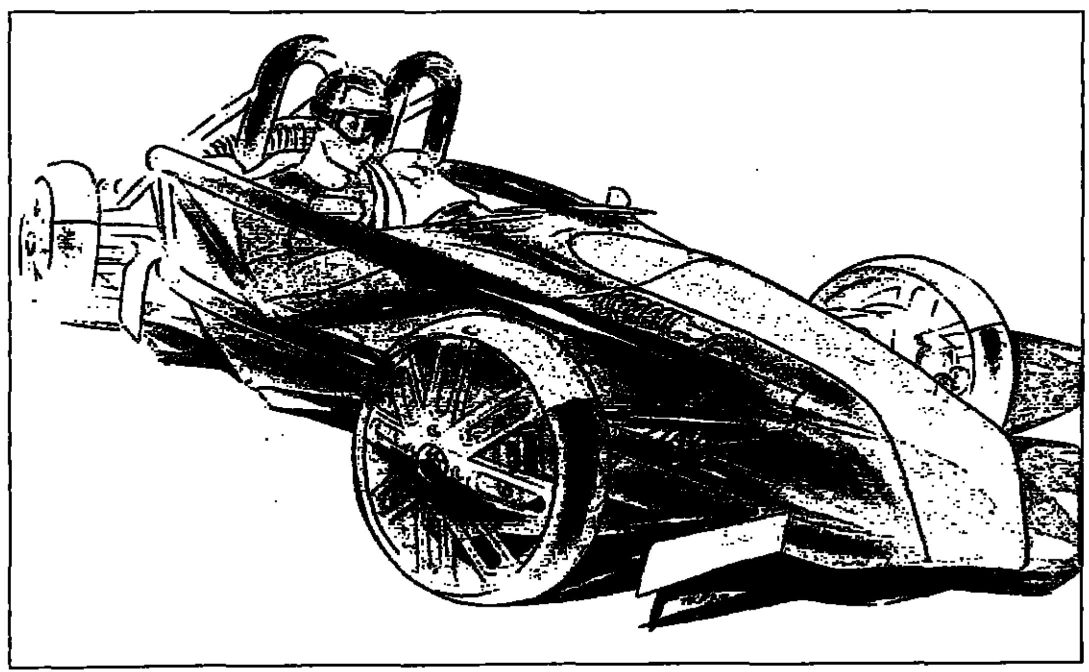
But the prototype of this rear-engined two-seater is destined to be on the road early next year: a sub-£10,000 sports car, weighing about 500kgs and designed for a production run of about 500 a year. It will be powered by Ford's economical and powerful Zetec-SE engine range and in 1.25-litre form will probably get to 60mph in about seven seconds and reach a maximum of 110mph.

"We're not looking for a high top speed but for spectacular acceleration that will make the car fun to drive yet cheap to run," says Samantha Porter, senior lecturer at Coventry University, where a team mainly of *students* has put the car together for the Motor Show.

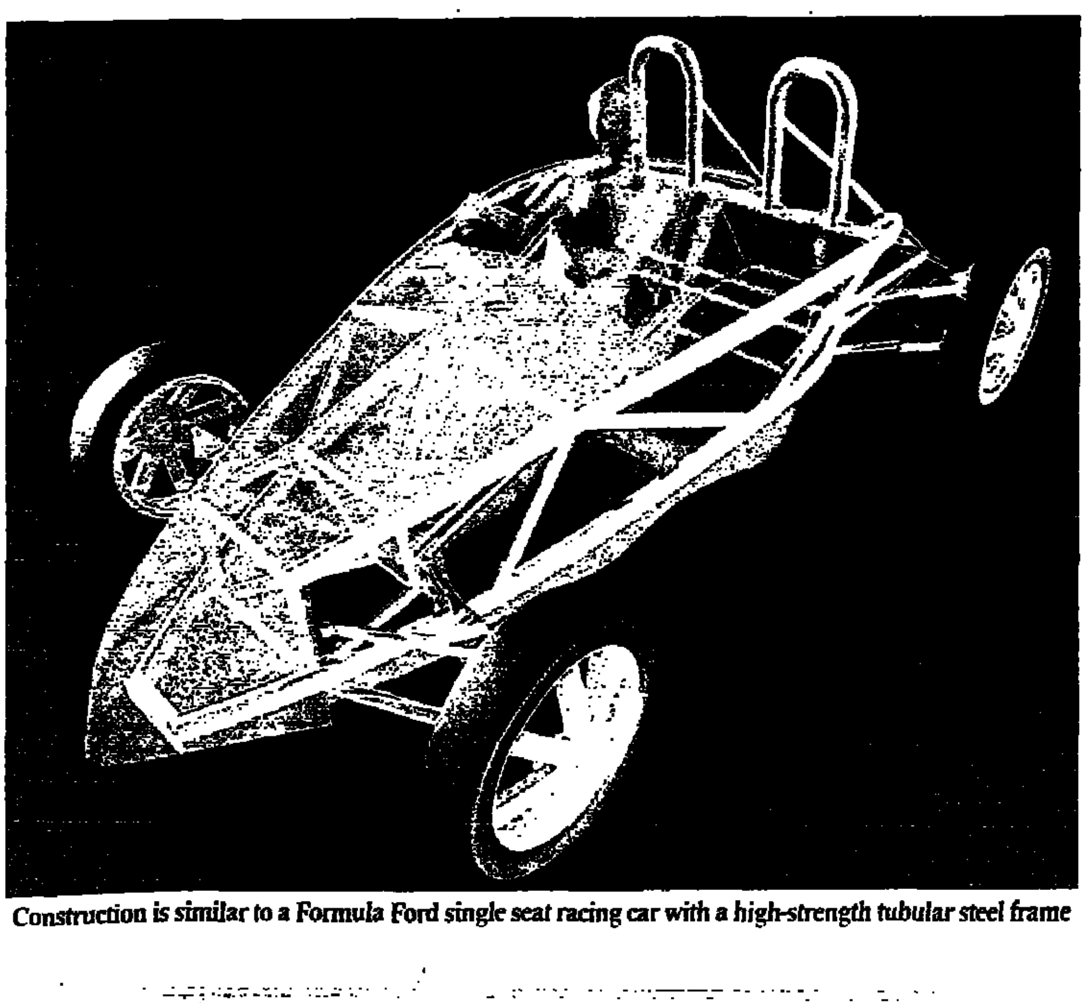
The basic construction is similar to a Formula Ford single seat racing car with a high-strength tubular steel frame, inboard suspension and a quick-ratio steering rack. The *bodywork* is made from a composite material and the interior, unlike many basic sports cars, should be waterproof.

"We wanted the project to be much more than another static concept. Many people have unsuccessfully *tried to redefine* the original Lotus 7 or the four-wheeled motorbike concept. We think we've done that and more," says Simon Saunders, senior lecturer in transport design.

The car was built with £40,000 funding *and co-operation* from Ford, Michelin, British Steel and a host of automotive component makers with much of the design using virtual reality. "It demonstrates that industry and higher education can work together to produce *designers* of tomorrow," says Saunders.



Powered by Ford's Zetec-SE engine range, the car will probably get to 60mph in about seven seconds



Construction is similar to a Formula Ford single seat racing car with a high-strength tubular steel frame

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Contenders line up in the race to be Britain's Car of the Year

To the victors, the spoils; to the losers, the lemon

AWARDS 1

KNIVES will be sharpening over some swanky dinners next week as the motor industry awards season gets under way. For the manufacturers, awards mean *glory or ignominy, and there are more cars* than ever under the microscope of the numerous judges this year.

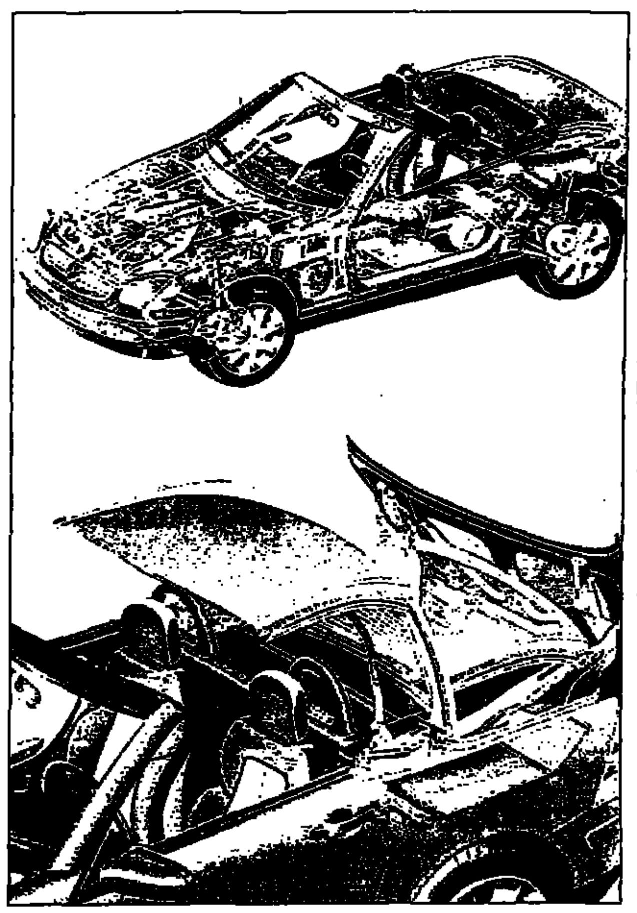
Jaguar, Mercedes, Rover, Ford, Porsche, Toyota, Citroën, Peugeot, Volvo and Lotus are only a few of the companies that have launched important new models this year and which are desperate to capture the attention of buyers.

The monthly magazine, *Car*, is first off the blocks on Monday, followed on Tuesday night by *Autocar*, the weekly, which is throwing a champagne bash in Birmingham after press day at the British International Motor Show at the National Exhibition Centre.

Peter Horbury, the Brit who runs Volvo's design studios, and Geoff Upex, reponsible for Rover's lovely little 200 series, are in the frame for best designer awards along with Bruno Sacco, who designed the glamorous Mercedes SLK sports car, a model likely to figure highly in the competition for best technical innovation and which starts appearing in Britain early next year.

But which will be voted Best Car? Two new British models must surely be in the frame: Jaguar's XK8 for its all-round brilliance, and the Lotus Elise, the most spectacularly innovative car of the year.

But all eyes over the dinner plates will be for the award nobody wants: Lemon of the Year. Hints are that the Honda Legend or Toyota Paseo could get a mention.



Mercedes SLK: its innovative hood mechanism has put it among the contenders for Best Car of the Year award

AWARDS 2

PEUGEOT has already chalked up an important victory in the annual awards round, winning the prize from The Caravan Club for the Towcar of the Year with its 406 GLX TD diesel. Judges studied 39 cars and decided the best petrol-driven *model was the Citroën Xantia Turbo VSX* Estate. Chrysler won the budget class for cars up to £12,500, with the newly-introduced Neon LE, with the category for models between £12,501 to £16,500 taken by Vauxhall's Astra 2.0 Sport. BMW's 528i was best luxury car and the Ford Maverick GLX five-door best all-terrain vehicle.

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هكذا من الأصل

Simon Templar is back — and in a sli[illegible]w coupé. **Alan Copps** reports

Volvo is still the saintly one

Remember the Saint? Simon Templar, the smooth one with the handgun and the halo, who always got the girl and drove a racy little Volvo. He's back, he's still a heartthrob, he's still got a gun and a new girl — but he still drives a Volvo.

The character who launched Roger Moore on the path to global stardom as James Bond is revived next year in a new movie starring Val Kilmer which has just finished filming at Paramount studios in Hollywood. Visitors to next week's Birmingham Motor Show will be among the first to get a sneak preview of the film — on the Volvo stand, of course.

Volvo C70: "Now we will be producing the cars you want"

For in this new film it's not just Kilmer who will be making his debut as the Saint or Elisabeth Shue as the woman who steals his heart. Moore's P1800 coupé, now a much-loved classic, is replaced by Volvo's new sports coupé, the C70, a five-cylinder turbocharged little mover that will get from 0-60mph in seven seconds and has a top speed of 150mph.

Like all the best Hollywood stories, this has a British touch. The C70 follows a line of recent models that have done so much to bury the Swedish maker's reputation for being boring and boxy. Like them, it is the work of Peter Horbury, the company's British design chief, but unlike the others this is his own dream car.

"Volvo's always been very good at supplying the car you need. Now we will be producing the cars you want," he says. "The desirability factor is what we have concentrated on in this car. It's been a labour of love."

"In Hollywood there are beautiful film stars and handsome film stars. The Volvo 850 estate is the epitome of Swedish functionality. It's a handsome car, but we sell most of our cars outside Sweden. The C70 is a beautiful car."

The car will be arriving in Britain at just about the same time as the film, next spring, at a price of about £30,000. Unlike the two-seat P1800, it is a full four-seater, but it lacks nothing in performance, producing 240bhp from its 2.3-litre engine.

"I think it's great that the Saint is driving a Volvo again," says Horbury. "It's another step in the process of helping people recognise how much the Volvo has changed. I've had some people say to me 'It looks so good, but it's a Volvo', I like to think it looks so good *and* it's a Volvo."

The C70 is one of the fastest design-to-production exercises in the company's history: 30 months from the original brief to the finished product. The brief was very simple: to create a Volvo sports car Horbury would want for himself.

"We want to make Volvo a desirable speciality car as well as a reliable everyday car. I wouldn't like to do things quite so quickly on a mainstream product, but we are a very small design team — and not everybody has the chance to design their next company car," says Horbury.

What he has produced is a sleek coupé with a grille that marks it out instantly as a Volvo and yet looks completely different to anything the company has produced recently. It will come in [illegible] 17 new colours dreamt u[illegible] the design and promis[illegible] spoke" approach to the [illegible]. Driven through the front [illegible] will have a choice of [illegible] manual or four-speed [illegible] transmission with sp[illegible] and winter settings.

[illegible]e engineering is a joint ven[illegible] between Volvo and the racing [illegible]cialist TWR, which has already [illegible]sterminded the company's rise [illegible] prominence in the fiercely [illegible]tested world of touring car [illegible]ing. The chassis was developed [illegible] TWR to ensure that the han[illegible] lives up to the promise of performance, while much of its technology comes from the successful 850R.

Appropriately for a car with a touch of showbiz in its pedigree, the C70 will also feature one of the most sophisticated audio systems available, with ten speakers positioned around the cabin.

"People are much more aware of design now and the C70 reflects that," says Horbury. "We want Volvo to be as instantly recognisable as Cartier, Rolex or Armani — I don't think the C70 will disappoint."

Volvo is obviously hoping that some of the halo effect will rub off.

Knights Templa[illegible] with his personalised P1800 and Hollywood's Val Kilmer with his 150mph turbocharged C70

A dangerous Toad ahead

The original car fanatic returns

One of Britain's best-loved but most feared motoring pioneers is coming back to the road, *writes Alan Copps*. Look out for Mr Toad!

The vain animal with a passion for four-wheeled technology returns to the cinema screen played by Terry Jones and backed by an all-star British cast.

But as *The Wind in The Willows* was arguably the first story in which the car was a star, what Toad drives is important. It looks for all the world like a veteran, a rare Speedwell from the first decade of this century. So how does Jones manage to roar and bounce across fields with a full load of his cronies in such a delicate old machine?

It is, of course, a creation of the special effects department and under that rather handsome hand-built shell lurks a Land Rover chassis. "I don't think my heart would have stood it if they'd used a real car for those scenes," says John Geary, whose company, Motorhouse Hire, supplied most of the four-wheeled machinery seen in the film.

"The special effects people did a marvellous job. I've driven the car. Because the filming was all done off-road it's not got an MoT. I certainly wouldn't like to drive it at much more than 40mph. The steering column had to be adapted so the driver sits bolt upright which makes the car feel rather strange."

The other cars featured include a beautiful 1904 Berliet, which appears to be wrecked in the most spectacular stunt of the film, and a pair of 1904 French Hotchkisses. "The Berliet belongs to a friend of mine. It disappears round a corner, there's a sickening crash and all kinds of bits bounce back round the bend. It's all an illusion. Much to my relief the car is still in one piece," says Geary.

Apart from Jones as Toad, the film stars Eric Idle as Rat, Nicol Williamson as Badger, John Cleese as Toad's lawyer, Nigel Planer as a car salesman and Julia Sawalha as the jailer's daughter. In a distinct change from Kenneth Grahame's original, Antony Sher as Chief Weasel plots the building of a giant dog food factory on the riverbank.

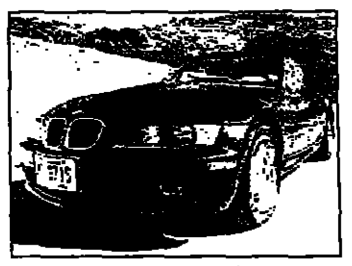
The Wind In The Willows goes on general release on October 18.

Toadmobile: unde[illegible] Land Rover chassis

Where's the excitement?

Cary Grant and Pierce Brosnan both made a sports car famous, *writes Eric Dymock*. In *To Catch a Thief*, Grant and Grace Kelly race through the Riviera in a Sunbeam Alpine. In *Goldeneye*, Brosnan forsakes James Bond's Aston Martin for a BMW Z3.

Both open two-seaters were built on underpinnings of production saloons, the Alpine on the Sunbeam-Talbot 90, the BMW on the Compact 318i. The Sunbeam Alpine was aimed at North America. The BMW Z3 is made there. It is quick, lively, and handles well, the engine a smooth-revving four-cylinder mounted in front, drives the rear wheels as a sports car's should.


BMW Z3: unstirred for Bond

Top speed is not far short of 130mph, and the engine delivers its 140bhp with smoothness and polish.

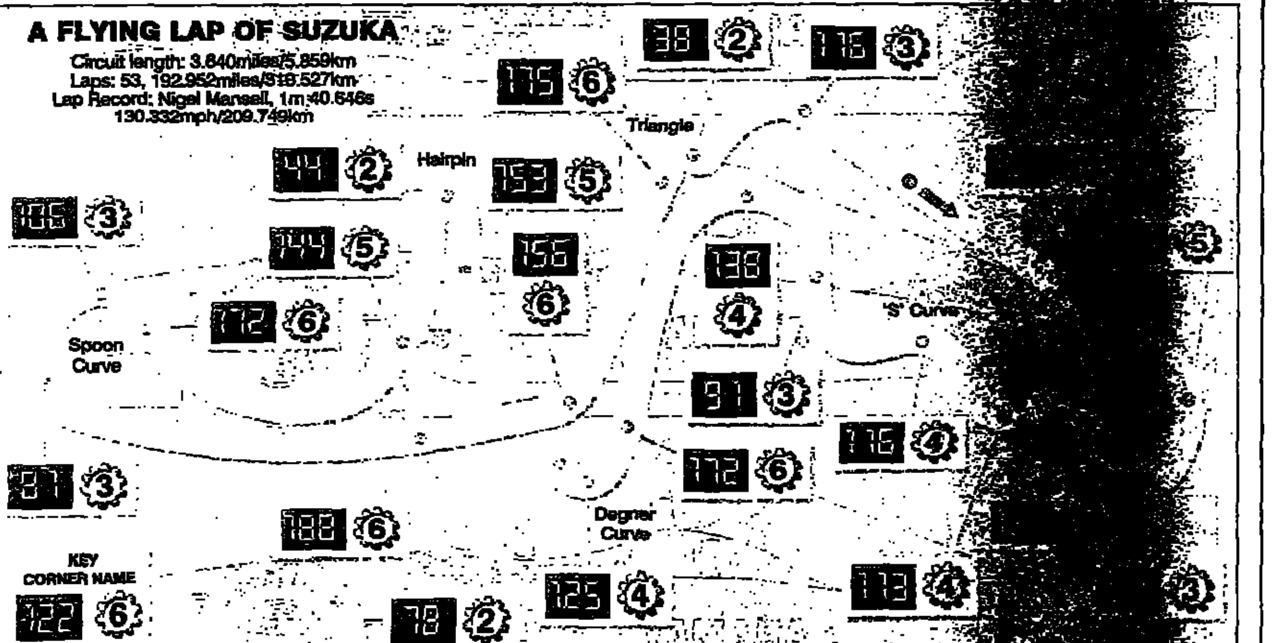
Yet a sports car needs sensation, balance and excitement that somehow has been refined out of the Z3. It has cornering capacity to spare, but lacks a tactile element to make it a great sports car.

It arrives in Britain in the spring at under £20,000, but with Porsche unveiling the Boxster and Mercedes the SLK at the motor show, BMW is already planning a six-cylinder Z3.

Hill on the brink of the mounta[illegible]p

Jonathan Palmer

on a grand prix battle of nerves



The fact that the World Championship is going down to the wire at Suzuka tomorrow is great news for Formula One and all those who follow the sport. For Damon Hill, though, it has been three more long weeks to wait to know if he will be champion.

No doubt he will have been reflecting on his terminal Monza tyre hitting mistake, and wondering if he was too conservative at Estoril, without either he would already have won the title that his father Graham claimed in 1962 and 1968.

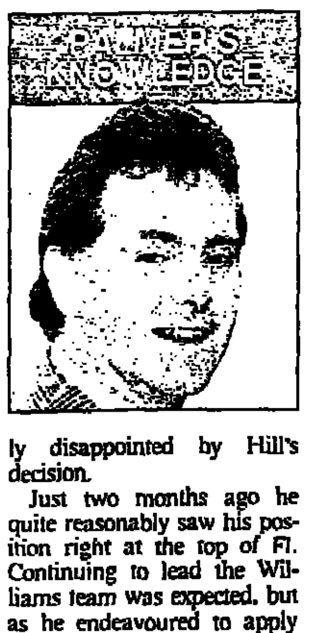
He is just one tantalising point away from being champion. After 15 grands prix, Hill has 87 points to the 78 of his Williams team mate Jacques Villeneuve.

Although the odds are stacked hugely in Hill's favour, it could yet all go horribly wrong. Villeneuve is likely to win the Japanese Grand Prix; he knows the circuit from Formula 3000 and may perform better in conditions could be both wet and dry. Hill's nightmare is failing to finish, which happened here last year, when he slithered off on a wet track twice, the second time for good.

This season he has made far fewer mistakes, and will not need to be pushing too hard, although a heavy deluge has caught out the best of them in the past, Prost, Senna and Schumacher included. Worrying conditions. Mechanical problems with his Williams Renault are equally unlikely — only twice has he so suffered this year, and Villeneuve not at all.

Some wonder if Williams and Renault might influence the result, through some apparently accidental finger trouble or electronic programming. Such thoughts should be dismissed: both parties value their integrity far higher than any desire to manipulate the World Championship. Williams and Renault simply want the best man to win, so much so that — unusually — a spare car is being taken for each driver.

I, like the vast majority of the country, will be thrilled when Hill surely clinches the title, but if he fails, I doubt he will ever have the chance again. At 36, he only has another two or three season in him and now seems to have set his destiny by his shock move to the TWR Arrows team for 1997. While this is undoubtedly a great coup for team boss Tom Walkinshaw, I am frankly disappointed by Hill's decision.



Just two months ago he quite reasonably saw his position right at the top of F1. Continuing to lead the Williams team was expected, but as he endeavoured to apply negotiating pressure to Frank Williams, other teams such as McLaren and Benetton were talked to. After all these options evaporated, Jordan remained Hill's most competitive opportunity, as a team solidly behind Williams, Ferrari, Benetton and McLaren and often in the top six.

With a strong Peugeot engine and Goodyear tyres, it would have been a team in which Hill could have used his experience and ability to take them the final furlong, picking up the occasional podium finish, and maybe even a win during 1997.

Jordan would have paid Hill £3.4 million for the first of a two-year contract. A sum that was topped, undoubtedly, by Walkinshaw's reputed £4.5m for a one-year deal. TWR Arrows have been right at the back of the field this year, just ahead of Minardi. They have in fact gone downhill, apparently because all funds have been allocated to ne[illegible]ay be ve[illegible]ll use Ya[illegible], have bee[illegible]rough-ou[illegible] Tyres are[illegible] will be su[illegible]estone, wh[illegible] for the fir[illegible].

I [illegible] TWR Ar[illegible]ace-win-ti[illegible]bet by bo[illegible] happen nex[illegible]998. And Hill[illegible] by the tim[illegible] mean-tim[illegible]ly team ma[illegible] hardly goi[illegible]s reput-ation[illegible] the logic of his[illegible] a com-bina[illegible] being bea[illegible]y Ralf Schu[illegible]ey.

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Today *The Times*, in association with Everyman Motor Racing at Mallory Park, offers readers the chance to test their driving skills with a prize worth £165.

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- *Catherine Brown, of London, won the test drive competition of September 21.*

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Everyman Motor Racing

F1 FANTASY DRIVE

With one race to go David Rokov from Bracknell, Berkshire, heads our leaderboard in the race for our £10,000 jackpot. His team, Richie's Terrors, leads our table with a total of 7,970 points. However, its all up for grabs with only tomorrow's race at Suzuka, Japan in our competition. Below are the top 18 positions after the 14 races in our competition. The Australian Grand Prix does not count in our game.

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Players can check the scores and positions of their teams by calling the hotline number below (Republic of Ireland readers should call 004 499 020 0501). Remember to have your 10-digit PIN number handy when you call. The line currently carries all positions after the Portuguese Grand Prix and will be updated again on Wednesday October 16.

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02	7,931	Aces	D Maynor
03	7,920	J Hunt U	J Hunt
04	7,896	Brothers Hotshots	W Lemon
05	7,894	KO16	D Rokov
06	7,885	Scab Car	R Howells
06	7,885	The Great 8	M Neathan
06	7,885	Phoney	D Park
06	7,885	Boy Racer 7	J Moore
06	7,885	The Simpletons	M Sim
06	7,885	Cowgirls Racing	R Wheeler
06	7,885	Richie's Terro rs	J Richardson
06	7,885	Chicken Roosters	S Maurice
06	7,885	Dream Team 8	D Springate
15	7,852	Locust	C Dare
16	7,839	Del Wall	K Walton
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0958 331631.

DAIMLER 4 - Lit
REG: OCT / 92. 28,000 - 00. Miles. Flamenco Red Metallic. Air-Cond. Full cream leather seating. Heated Fr seats. Elect - Fr Seats - Windows. Lumber control. Sun Roof. Rear ride levelling. Lambswool Rugs. Rear blinds. Rad/Cass -4- speakers. Cruise control. Air bag. Stunning car. Must be seen. £20,250.00. Tel: 01308 456 085 (Dorset) Evenings Only.

DAIMLER SOVEREIGN
4.0, K reg, Grey/ Grey trim, 16K, FSH. £23,950.
Tel: 01784 442625

EXCEPT'L
Double 6 MK3 '91J. Pot. Classic, Grey, lthr. FSH, 1 prev own. £11,000.
01844 274874

JAGUAR E TYPE
FHC 1971, silver grey, only 2 owners, genuine 46,360 miles (MOT history), chrome wire wheels, immaculate condition, rare original example. £17,950.
Details 01752 254425

JAGUAR
Sovereign 4.0 auto Oct '92 (k). 1 owner, Kingfisher Blue/ Doeskin hide, air con, cruise control, CD, Jaguar phone. 46,000 miles, FSH, taxed to May '97. £16,250.
Tel: 0181 4459577
or 0468 893114

NEW
Jaguar XK8 Convertable. Immediate delivery. Massive spefication. Saphire Blue, classic leather. POA.
Tel: 01869 810858

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XJRS V12 6.0 Coupe. 89G. Light met Blue/ Beige leather piped blue. Every conceivable extra, guaranteed mileage. FJSH. £13,495. 3.6 XJC Cab. 87E. Met Maroon/ Beige leather. All usual Jag refinements. Guaranteed 69,000 miles from new. FJSH. £10,995. Both cars supplied with 12 months parts & labour warranty. 01538 399469 Steve Jolly Autos.

XK8 COUPE with extras, immediate delivery. Tel: 0171 584 2002.

XJR SuperCharge Auto, 95M, Flamenco Red/Cream Lthr, ESR, 15K Miles, £39,995. Lancaster Bow 0181 983 4444.

SOVEREIGN 4.0L.
H reg. Sage met/parchment leather 53K. FJSH. Jag warranty to March 1997. £11,500 ono.
01253 735780.

SOVEREIGN 4.0
Auto J reg Dec 91. Regency Red/Beige leather. air cond etc. 61,000 miles, FSH/Lancaster!. quality/immac cond. £16,000.
01474 879608

X300 JAGUAR SOVEREIGN
4.0 ltr, 95M, 24,000 miles, Sovereign spec plus extras, Jaguar warranty. £32,500 ono.
Tel: 01933 413462
/01234 713070

XJS
Coupe Celebration. Ice Blue Met/Cream Leather. N reg. Sept 95. 12K. Jag CD HL/w/w. Immaculate. £32,950.
Tel: 01723 362627 (day).

XJS
4 litre auto sapphire blue, cream leather, full spec, August 94, 95 model, 31K, FSH, mint condition, 3 year full warranty. £24,950.
Tel: 0468 304787

SOVEREIGN 3.6
Reg 88, private plate, 62K mls, FSH, silver birch, air cond, leather elec plus heated front seats, excel cond. £6,750.
Tel/Fax: 0161 652 7778.

XJS Conv V12
'91H, Regency Red/ Mag Piped Red, FJSH, 56k, Perfect. £17,250.
01582 834496(h)/
0181 8464469(w)

XJS
4.0 '93L, Champagne, c/c bumpers, alloys, FJSH, tracker, £18,250 ono.
Tel: 01628 851021/
01895 811232

XJRS
6.0 L, V12 Sport, Nov '90, Black/Cream int, 92K miles, FSH, superb condition. £11,000.
Tel: 0181 231 4125(day) /7420889.

XJS
4.0 92(K) Auto, flamenco/ doeskin, 47,000mls, superb condition, full spec. £16,750.
Tel: 01932 863665

JAGUAR & DAIMLER

XJS V12 Convertable
1989, 1 owner, Full Serv Hist, 71,000 mls, Red/ Black int, excel. condition, CD/ Hi-Fi. £11,950.
Tel: 0171 6032060

SOVEREIGN 4.0
Auto, K-Reg, Black, 1 owner, FSH, 100k mls, £10,750.
Tel:01732 740044.

XJ 12
93 L, diamond blue, doe skin hide piped blue, air con, CD, 1 owner, 31,000 miles, Full Jaguar History.
£20,500 ono.
Tel: 01924 253826 or 01924 291234.

NEW XK8 CONVERTIBLE.
Carnival Red, Cream leather upholstery with unique sport pack, delivery mileage only
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Mobile: 0836 614197.

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Exchange George III longcase clock. Silver and gilt moon face dial, by Sandeford of Manchester. Value approx £8,000.
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INTERGRALE EVO 2
Oct 92, 44,000km, ltd edition, BRG, tan hide, a/c, NU1 remote alarm, mint condition, FSH.
£17,850.
Tel: 0831 300 911.

DELTA INTERGRALE EVOLUTION 3
1993(L), Lord blue, 5 speed, PAS, FWD, ABS, a/c, stereo, tracker alarm system, FLSH, 16,600 miles, immaculate condition.
£24,995.
Tel: 0181 780 0652
or 0385 920 209.

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Mercedes S280 new £24,950. Audi 80 Conv 1991 £12,750. Mercedes C180 1994 £14,950. Mitsub 3000GT '92 £17,950. Saab 900 16v 1992 £8,650. Audi 80 1.6i 1993 £7,950. BMW318i touring '92 £9,950. Golf GTi 5 Dr 1993 £9,450. Mazda MX6 V6 1993 £9,950. Escort Ghia 5 Dr '94 £6,950. Jeep Cherokee 1991 £7,950. Golf GLi Conv '93 £8,950. 0171 4851015. Fax 0171 2676934. Transeuropean LHD Centre

VOLVO 240 Estate.
1993 model. M Reg. 7 sts, A/C, air bag etc, FSH.
£7,750 ono
0171 221 4367

SPIDER
92 J, Black, full leather, 1 lady owner. H/top. 125,000km. £9,200.
Tel: 0114 2352363

هكذا من الأصل

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Humberts

DEVON/CORNWALL BORDERS
Country house & holiday cottage complex in 22 acres
£625,000 Freehold
4 reception rooms, 8 beds and 6 baths in main house.
11 holiday cottages. Heated indoor pool. Consent for 3 more cottages.
A well established profitable business and elegant home
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NR NORTHLEACH An attractive Cotswold cottage standing in an elevated position overlooking the village. 2 rec rms, kit, conservatory, clkrm, utility rm. 3 beds, and 2 bthms. Pretty enclosed gardens. Double garage and parking. £225,000 Butler Sherborn (01993) 822325.

DEVON

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Modern 2 bedroom Maisonette with balcony overlooking Exe Estuary. Garage. £85,000.

Tel: 01803 524564.

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A very spacious detached five bedroom house with two garages

The property includes an entrance hall, lounge, dining room, downstairs study, cloak room, fully fitted kitchen with breakfast room and utility

Upstairs: The master bedroom has a five piece ensuite bathroom of exceptional size. Located at the other end of the house are the remaining four bedrooms, family bedroom and walk-in under eves storage area

Gardens front and back are laid mainly to lawn. Quiet, pretty location with good linkage to M11 and M25.

Priced at £199,950 and is available through Adrian McCarthy on 01371 875666

GLOUCESTERSHIRE

NR LECHLADE Charming Cotswold stone village house with lovely gardens. Drwg rm, din rm, gdn/sit rm, study/bed 4, kit, shwr rm, 3 beds, bthrm, sep w.c. Attic with potential further beds. Gge. Pkg. £220,000 Butler Sherborn 01993 822325

The Old Chapel
ULEY, GLOUCESTERHIRE

Grade II listed former chapel on edge of Cotswold village. Converted to high spec. galleried design offices, but with outline planning for conversion to domestic dwelling. All mains services inc. Gas C.H. Small, walled garden; stunning views.

Offers in excess of £125,000
01453 860404

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HARTLEY WINTNEY

Spacious 3 bedroom detached bungalow.
Large lounge, diner, kitchen / breakfast room. 2 double bedrooms plus 3rd bedroom / study. All in excellent decorative order. Large conservatory 2 garages and workshop, compact garden with large patio.
Close village centre & amenities.
Waterloo 45 minutes.
£175,000.

Tel: 01252 845226

HEREFORDSHIRE

RADLETT a magnificent new 5 bedroom, 3 bathrm (2 ensuite), 4 reception detached house on a large plot. Easy access to city, M25, M1. NHBC. P.O.A. 01923 853477 or 0181 950 2164

HERTFORDSHIRE

CENTRAL LONDON 12 miles. Classic Regency period house, views over Green, 5 beds, 4 rec, kit/break, 3 baths, dble garage. Walled gdns. Guide £900,000 Lane Fox 01582 764343

ISLE OF WIGHT

17TH Century cottage, 3 bds, bth, F kit, 2 recep. Rural Isle of Wight. £75,000. 01983 825565

KENT

NEW ROMNEY Charming Grade II period house (c.1600). 3 beds + 2 attic rms, walled gdn. Close to historic town, sea & golf course £120,000. Lawrence & Co. (01303) 266022 Fax 260063

NR SITTINGBOURNE - A superb Victorian country house with large main reception rooms, set in mature 4 acre grounds with a separate cottage, easy access M2 and station for commuting. 4 recep, 5 bed, 3 bath. Cottage 2 recep, 2 bed. price guide: £375,000. Calcutt Maclean, Bridge Street, Wye, Ashford TN25 5DP (01233) 812060

TUNBRIDGE

1960's house, secluded position in cul-de-sac facing a green.
Accommodation hall, cloaks, through lounge, dining room, kitchen, large utility, large 3rd reception/ 4th bedroom, 3 further bedrooms, integral garage, mature gardens on 4 sides of house-entire plot approx 1/5 acre £175,000.

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A QUALITY LIFE STYLE

Bungalow between Canterbury and Whitstable, with 4 lrge rms & 30ft lnge. P/b bar, bath/ jacuzzi, separate shower/toilet. Mod. 17ft kit with BBQ grill. Approx 90ft rear gdn, sun lnge. Easy access M2 and BR station. Excel/quiet location for all amenities. £134,995.

01227 793745

NORFOLK

£32/45,000 Brancaster (N coast) 1/2 bed flats in lovely setting nr golf course. Superb sandy beach & NT wildlife marshes. Ideal hideaway, retirement etc. Tel 01328 738011 T

NORFOLK BROADS

Substantial riverside bungalow on the River Ant near Barton Broad ● 3 beds, 2 baths ● dining-room and double aspect living-room overlooking the river ● beautiful lawned gardens ● 68ft key-headed frontage, wet dock, slipway

Freehold £295,000,
Call 01692 638378.

NORFOLK

RINGSTEAD

N.Norfolk coast, beautiful conservation village, 2mls Holme/Thornham. The Old Bakery- 3 bed cott with living room, hall and lge kit/diner, small gdn. Just completely renovated and in excellent cond.- £65,500.

01' 3414718 (day) or 0181 374 1434 (eve)

MIDDLESEX

BRENTFORD DOCK

charming maisonette, opposite Queen Gardens, overlooking private marina, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, entrance hall, dressing room, fitted kitchen, lots of cupboards, 2 balconies, garage & storage.
Excellent condition. Long lease.
£155,000

Tel: 0181 5686422

SCOTLAND

SKYE Farm cottage, with 12 acres, in superb coastal location, South Skye, near private airstrip. Offers over £70,000. Tel: 01463 237171.

OXFORDSHIRE

OXFORD

within walking distance of the Dragon school, perfect family house, viewed as a jewel of victorian architecture. South/f garden, 3 receptions, playroom, huge kit, utility, laundry, wine cellar, 8 bed, 2 bath, shower/r, gas ch, 2 staircases, self/con flat possible. £625,000.

Tel: 01865 511500
or 0802 855753

SHROPSHIRE

Luxury

in-town penthouse apartment with stunning views over historic Shrewsbury. Situated in private landscaped gardens, resident caretaker. South facing balcony. 3 beds, 1 with ensuite shower, bathroom, fully fitted kitchen, dining room and lounge. Garage plus parking. Carpets, curtains and fittings. Telford 20 Mins. Wolverhampton 35 Mins. £199,000.

For details
Tel: 01743 232040.

SOMERSET

S. SOMERSET-convenient A303, character det stone new house in sought after village amidst beautiful countryside, 4 beds, 3 receps, kit, utility, d/gge, c/h. Colbert-Smith 01963 32045

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SURREY / SUSSEX BORDERS.

Close to mainline station (50 minutes Waterloo).
30 acres, pretty cottage, 4 beds, 2 baths. Good yard and buildings. No agricultural restrictions. Quiet rural area with easy access motorways and airports. £485,000 ono.
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Select New Courtyard Development in the heart of this charming and much sought after village
3, three bed terraced cottages (1 sold)
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UPPER BEEDING / SOUTH DOWNS

Charming Grade II Listed Sussex style farm house. 4 bedrooms, 44 foot long reception, annexe. pool. barn, walled garden, garaging. Early vacant possession £278,000.
Guy Leonard/ Humberts
01798 874033

COUNTRY HOUSE

Period dwelling sits in small village. with access over one level, sitting, dining, bath, kit & utility rm. Main bed with en suite facilities. Plus 3 other beds, fan and brick fireplace, ceiling and wall timbers. Standing in 3 acres, stables, pond with small island. Rural views. Dble garage. Near station. Separate annex suit for 1 pers. £365,000.

Tel : 0860 449329

WALES

WEST WALES truly unique converted stone barn. Secluded and peaceful location. High standard of accommodation. 5 bedrooms (4 ensuite). Grounds /land 5 acres. Further land available. £290,000. Tel: 01559 363401

WILTSHIRE

SMALL WILTSHIRE VILLAGE

Overlooking the River Avon and meadows. 3 beds all with fitted wardrobes, large fitted kitchen, huge living room with exposed beams and open fireplace. Fully double glazed, centrally heated, car port for 2 cars, easy commuting distance to London.
£127,000.
Tel: 01980 670 410 Evenings

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BIDDESTONE nr Corsham, Bath c. 9m, Corsham c. 2m, 2 bedroom period detached thatched cottage, 2 ensuites, conservatory, overlooking duck pond. £167,500. Tel: (01249) 713877. ref 3404

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MORTGAGE REFUSED ? We say yes to arrears ccj, Bankrupts - No accounts 01669 764836

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WORCESTER CITY Roses around the door, great two listed, quiet conservation area, 2 bedrooms early Victorian courtyard cottage. Garage 5 minutes. Offroad parking. Freehold. Offers £16,950. Tel: 01905 21969.

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PROVENCE Var Apt in 17C Chateau Pool/tennis £32,000 Fuzz Domus Abroad 0171 431 4692

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£333,000 + lawyer expenses
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FRANCE

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Ground floor flat with Lake view and close to Ski Resorts. 2 bedroom, lounge/dining room, laundry room, WC/bathroom. From balcony facing the Lake Leman, back balcony facing South (mountains). Private garden, parking, Cave. Price 410,000 francs. For details phone/fax 0181 902 2814.

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ALGARVE - Country plot with ruin close to Benagil, Ideal for new pristine villa. Contact Portogos. Tel: 0181 810 0785 UK or Fax 00351 82 341286 P.

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FOUR SEASONS FAIRWAYS
Quinta do Lago
Lux. 2 bed 2 bath (Sleeps Six).
PENTHOUSE FLAT
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Outside Jacuzzi
Golf views
4 X 2 Weeks p.a.
£52,500.
Details 0181-748-5443

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COSTA BLANCA - Moraira - Taylor Woodrow's fantastic deals for quick movers on last remaining apartment & bungalows. Tel: 0181 893 2525

TENERIFE Losamericas, Panorama near Port, 3 Star, 1 bed quality flat, pool etc. £37,000 inc furn. Tel: 0121 6224943 Bus.hrs.

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Playa Blanca. Casas del Sol. 2 bed bung. Marble terr. Well equip. Gd posta. £50,000.
01785 242207/
01386 701586

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Ex showplace fully furn 2000 sq ft, living, 3 beds, 2 baths (1 en-s), lounge/din, r/kit/bkfst, r/laun, r/patios/lad, pool/dbl, garf/basmt, top rental area, adj to fidk tennis court, leis club & launch for boats into Gulf priv bch, 5 mins. £110,000.

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LONDON RENTALS

ADJ Vauxhall Bridge. One bed luxury flat. Prestige block on river, superb views, balcony, porter. £220 pw unfurn incl c/heat+hot water 0468 141049

BINA GDNS SW5 4 bed unfurn flat. Large dble recp patio, direct access to comm. gdns £700w Aaron & Lewis. 0171 244 9911 t 0171 244 9838t

BLACKFRIARS, SE1. Spacious 1 bedroom flat, 5 minutes from the city. 1 bed, rec, bath. F/F. £275 pw. 1 yr. 0171 371 6696

BLACKFRIARS, SE1. Spacious 1 bedroom flat, 5 minutes from the city. 1 bed, rec, bath. F/F. £275 pw. 1 yr. 0171 371 6696

BRACKNELL GDNS NW3 Huge 1 bed 2nd flr conv, f/furn, lge terr f/kit, Gas CH £210 pw. Tel: 0171 794 1000

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CITY Nr Liverpool St. Selection of new studios & 1 bedroom Victorian conversions tastefully furn. lift. Prices starting from £180 pw. 0171 480 6816

CLIFTON VILLAS, W9. Stunning conv, dble recep, 2 dbl beds, lux f/f/kit & bath balcony, gas CH £395pw 0171 794 1000

EATON SQ. Elegant 2 bd 2 bth use of Sq. gdns. £750,00 pw. Ironsides. 0171 581 5877

FULHAM V.lux lge 3 bd 3 bth pkg ff, o/l riv. use H'bour Club. £625 pw 0171 488 1458

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HOLLAND PK Luxury mews hse 1 dbl bed, f/f, gge, nr tube. £240pw. 0049 89292246

HYDE PARK. 5 bed 5 baths 2 recp gge, £800 pw. NW8 - Unfurnished 3 bed 2 recps. £650 pw. W2 - 3 bed, 2 baths £425 pw 0956 435574/0181 441 3358 t

HYDE PK W2. 4 bd 3 bth, dbl lnge unfurn, lift, porter in mansion blk. £650 pw. 0171 724 9919

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KENSINGTON, W8. Spacious apartment in great location. 2 beds, 2 rec's, bath. F/F. 1 yr. £600 pw. 0171 371 6696

KENSINGTON Newly decorated 4 bed, 2 bath furnished house. £600 pw. 0181 346 6148 t

KENSINGTON, W8. 2 bed 2 bath flat, unfurn, spotless. £300 pw. Greenacres 0171 720 0461

KINGS RD 5 mins. Lux lge 2 bd 2 bth ff, o/l riv. use H'bour Club Fr £310-350pw 0171 4881458

LITTLE VENICE Excellent 1 bed 1st floor conversion with balcony. Share F/H. £109,000 Sandfords 0171 723 9988

LITTLE VENICE/ Maida Vale specialists in letting flats, hses Vickers & Co 0171 289 1692

MARYLEBONE, W1. Lovely mews house in a super street. 2 beds 2 rec's, 1 bath, F/F, 1 yr £450pw Parsons Fox: 0171 371 6696

OLYMPIA W14 Lrge 1 dble bed grd flr, f/furn, f/kit, 6 months. £190pw. Tel: 0171 603 6557.

PICCADILLY, W1. 2 bedrm apt, lounge, f/f kitch, carpark. Long let. £365 pw. 0171 355 1156

ST JOHNS WOOD, NW8. Very large & impressive unfurnished ground floor flat in this prestigious location with security. 4 beds, 3 rec's, 3 baths. U/F. 1 yr. £680 pw. 0171 371 6696

ROLAND GDNS 1st flr 2 bd 2 bth internal lift 2 roof ter £575 neg. Ironsides 0171 581 5877

SWISS COTTAGE, NW3. Interior designed 3 bed apt with balcony. Ideal long/short stay from £450 pw inc maid service. 0171 794 5702/0956 286272

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Raised ground floor, magnificent 31ft Ballroom recep
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£550pw.

Tel: 0956 137350.

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WEST KENSINGTON Attractive S/C gdn flat, bedrm, sitting rm, kit & bathrm, WM. Heating inc. Conv public transport. Avail Nov 2nd. £800 pcm. 0171 371 5607 (5pm - 9pm). No agents.

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day time only

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off.

Newly decorated 3 double bedrooms, reception, small dining room, kit, bathroom and shower. Air conditioned, 24 hour security. £675 pw.

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ST JOHNS WD NW8. 3 bed hse 2 bath, gdn, clse Regents Pk. Furn. £780 pw. 0171 724 9919

SW19 Near Northern Line. Large 1 double bedroom luxury flat, overlooking playing fields. £575 pcm. Tel: 01223 413409.

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Newly decorated Interior designed character 2 bed cottage. Patio garden, Fully equipped kitchen, bathroom with power shower. Nr restaurants /park. Suit prof. Nonsmoke couple. Avail immed. £1500 pcm. Strictly no agents.

Tel: 0181 940 1097 /
0171 622 5701.

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Unfurnished 3 bed flat, on 2 floors in listed Georgian house, newly decorated throughout, 40ft garden, secluded position, close BR & Tube; available 19th October. £1300 pcm.

Tel: Andrew on
0171 5034735

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5 Bedroomed house, dining room, luxurious kitchen, drawing room, 3 bathrooms, large terrace, short or long let.
£900 pw.
Tel: 0121 753
3210(Office Hours).

ST JOHNS WOOD 4 bed house, 2 receps, 2 bath, cloak, garage, gdn. £900 pw. 0171 724 9919

ST PAULS 2 mins. Lux bed new 1 or 2 bd ff pkg. nr tube. £290-£490 pw. 0171 488 1458

SW7 Two bdrms refined kit recep/diner new decor. £325pw no agts.Tel: 01713734992.

W1 Charming 3 bed hse, recep, dining, bathrm + shower rm. gdn. £400 pw. 0171 266 0294.

W1 Very lux large 2 bed 2 bath ff, porter, nr tube £560 pw. Tel: 0171-488-1458.

COUNTRY RENTALS

E. ANGLIA Large 3 bedrm hse on remote 400 acre island, 1½ hours central London. Salt marshes, beaches. Tel: 01621 788451 or Fax 788244.

COUNTRY RENTALS

E. ANGLIA Weatherboard Cottage Large on remote island, 1½ hours central London. Salt marshes, beaches. Tel: 01621 788451/788273 Fx 788244.

KELSO-Scotland. Modern semi det; 2 bedrms, 2 baths, garage, all mod cons, f/f. 6 months or longer. £450 pcm. No children or pets. Tel: 01573 226352.

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'89 (F) manual, Red/Black leather, FMSH, full spec.

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Blaze Red, ex cond, FSH, photos avail, MG club evaluation £7,500.
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911 Tip Coupe. 91. Black, AC, Leather, High miles, FSH £26,999 PX 01895 835446 T

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911

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01246 435855 Hm
01142 485633 Wk

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Tel: 0181 313 9955.

928 GT

August 93, 28k, black/black, manual, FPSH, immaculate.

£32,000 No Offers.

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C2 CAB

L Reg Nov 93, Cobalt blue, marble leather, blue piping, 31,000m, tiptronic, airbag, multi play CD, FPSH.

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1990. White, lady proff owner, low mileage, always garaged, as new condition, immob, FPSH, *£14,750.*

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1992 J, 1 owner, FMBSH, absolutely mint.
A/C, blueblack.
High mileage, good price.

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230E

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June 93, 4 door saloon, all electrics, 27,000 miles.

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19,500 mls, FMBSH.
£27,500.

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Mercedes owned and run.
Mercedes warranty.
Perfect condition,
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420 SL

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MOLE VALLEY TVR
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230TE

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MBFSH, 36,000 mls.

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PMBSH, 12,500 mls only.
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S320

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911 Turbo 2. See Porsche

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auto, July 93, immac cond, 50K mls, metallic green, sun/rf, alarm. Air bag. £12,000.

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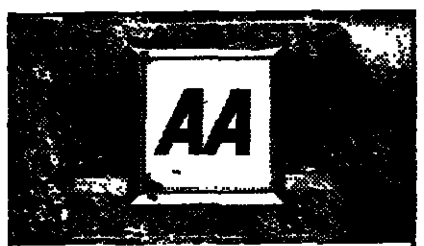

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£49,995.

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MGF VVC April 96 BRG, 6,000 miles, as new, £20,000 ono. 01202 736581.T

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96P, met Charc, Red lthr, Walnut, CD, hard top, 2,300m.

£21,750.

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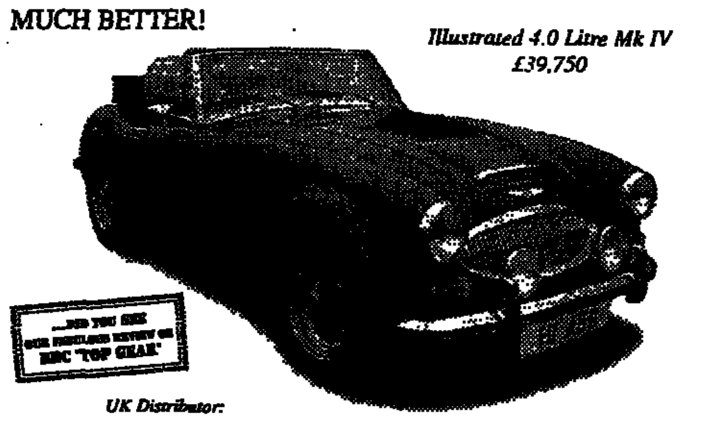

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Anthea Turner tells **Jonathan Crouch** about her passion for MGs — in precisely the right shade of green

Cinderella's new Pumpkin

STEERING COLUMN

Anthea Turner is the woman we love to hate. Even though she is one of television's highest-paid presenters, she has sufferered a torrid press. Yet, she has never pretended to be anything else than a Midlands girl-made-good. As a 20-year-old, she dreamt of owning an MG Midget but could not afford the £3,000 asking price. The Radio 1 girl turned GMTV presenter and original host of the National Lottery show reveals a longtime love affair with the MG marque.

How did you learn to drive?

I put in for my test just after my 17th birthday and got a date almost immediately. Fortunately, my cousin, Tim, put me through a crash course in an old Land Rover. There weren't any crashes and my dad's theory was that if I was to have an accident in a car like that, I'd be fairly safe.

What was your first car?

My parents' 1938 British Racing Green MG TB. Apparently, my carrycot just fitted into the back. Though they kept that car until quite recently, I never got behind the wheel — but I'd love to now. After I passed the test, I started off in Minis. After that, there was a Suzuki Jeep and two Volkswagen Golfs, a VW GTi and a navy blue convertible called "Pumpkin" because I had to play Cinderella in pantomime for five weeks to afford it.

What car do you drive now, and why?

An MGF 1.8i VVC which I bought earlier this year and christened "Pumpkin II". I decided from the outset it had to be British Racing Green, the colour my parents had on their car, but nothing like the shade of green Rover uses now. When we were finalising the paintwork, I remember searching frantically around the room to show the man what the solid pre-war colour really looked like. He ended up going away with a Russell Hobbs toaster which was near it but not quite. The result looks great.

Turner and MGF: "I wanted to show the man what the pre-war colour really looked like. He ended up with a Russell Hobbs toaster"

Do you enjoy driving?

Because of my filming commitments, I don't get much chance to drive. There's a car to take me into GMTV in the morning and I usually let the train take the strain on longer trips so I can read scripts, which means that when I do get to drive the MGF, I adore it all the more.

What is your dream car?

I can't imagine parting with Pumpkin II. Not even if I won the National Lottery.

What is your most hated car?

Anything that looks boring — and most current cars do. The basic problem is this whole emphasis on aerodynamics which has wiped out the individuality of so many affordable models.

What is your worst habit in a car?

Eating messy fruit, particularly when I'm driving, which inevitably means that the rotting remains end up littering the seats and smearing the carpets. It's really disgusting.

What infuriates you about other drivers?

People who drive right up your bumper. I'm not a slow driver — in fact, I have a heavy right foot — but I'm constantly amazed at other people's inability to understand a reasonable stopping distance.

What is the most unusual thing you've done in your car?

Like most women, I apply my lipstick at the traffic lights. After all, what else is that vanity mirror for?

Have you ever had points on your licence?

I did have up to nine for speeding and things like that, but it's clean at the moment, probably because I don't drive much.

What do you listen to in the car?

Radio, cassettes, and compact discs. At the moment, I'm listening to Madonna, Blondie, and, most embarrassingly, Abba Gold — because I know all the words.

If you were Secretary of State for Transport, what is the first thing you would do?

Ban boring cars.

What is your favourite car ad?

That Bodie and Doyle Nissan one, the "Professionals". And because my parents have a Renault Clio, the Nicole and Papa one sticks in my mind. Actually, I can't think of a car ad I don't like.

DR DASHBOARD

What to buy with that odd £7m

Q Mystic Meg predicts this week's lottery jackpot winner will be a man with hair, who lives in a house and has the letter E in his name. I am all of those, so what car should I buy with my £7 million?

A Probably better not to get your hopes up. Better to be surprised than disappointed, so don't trade in that battered Ford Escort yet.

Q Come on, you old misery. Let's dream a little. Give us some tips on what to buy with our winnings?

A Well, let's discount any kind of car that looks remotely sensible. If we have a few million pounds to play with, I insist the rules of the game are that all cars which are frugal, environmentally-friendly or have stickers in the back window saying "Baby on board" are automatically disqualified.

Q Eh? There is nothing left after all of those rules. But I suppose you're *right.* What will it be?

A Nothing so obvious as a Rolls-Royce or Bentley. Everyone assumes you would pay £220,000 for a Bentley Continental T or £210,000 for a Rolls limousine simply to show off because they are expensive. That also rules out a £640,000 McLaren F1.

Q You are not leaving us much. Such as what then?

A Discreet power is what we want here. No advertising that there is any big money in the driving seat. Just enough under the bonnet to get us where we need to go, very quickly and with enough glamour to impress — but no designer labels.

Q Where did the "we" slip in? These are my winnings; I just want advice.

A Quiet! You haven't won yet anyway. So, no Ferraris, Porsches or Astons on those grounds, and definitely no TVRs or Jaguars. BMWs too naff and off-roaders are *passé*; housewives drive them, for heaven's sake. Mercedes are for Middle Eastern diplomats and everything else is too cheap to bother with when you have £7 million.

Q Sorry, have I missed the point? What am I going to buy with my lottery winnings?

A Look, it will only make you miserable, so give the money to a deserving cause. Here's an address you could try: Cheques payable to Dr Dashboard . . .

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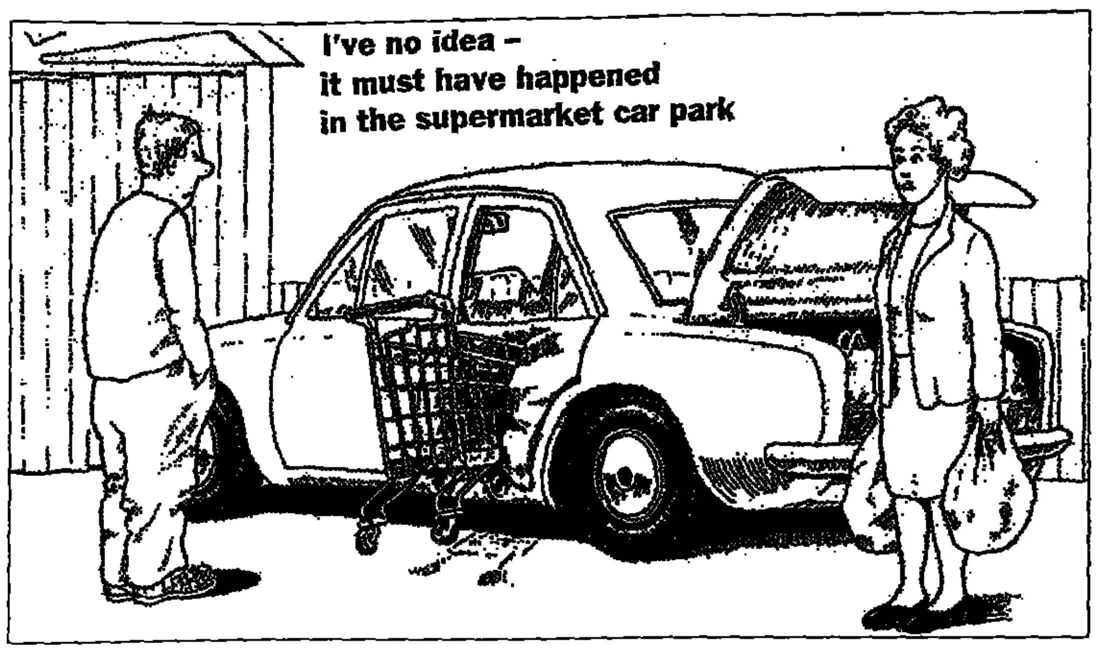
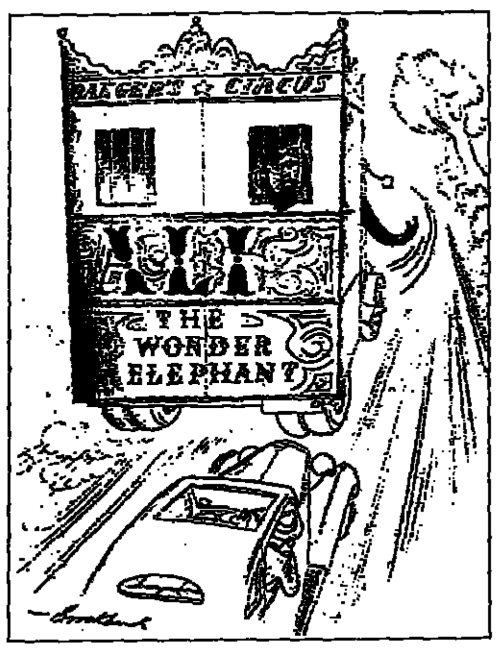
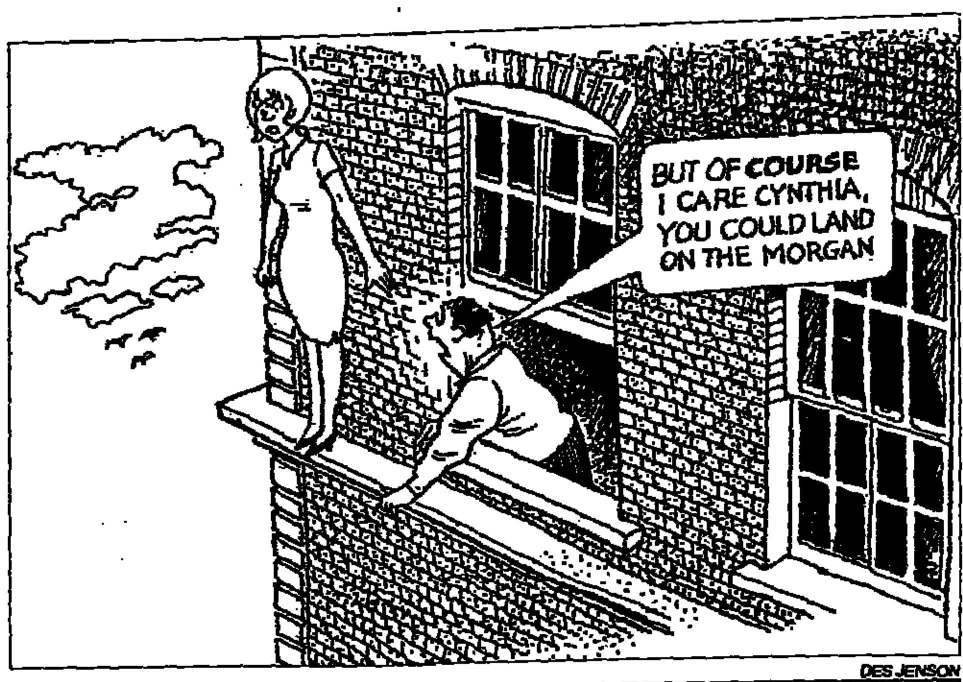
Ben Her finds a funny way to raise funds for the industry's charity






BUT OF COURSE I CARE CYNTHIA, YOU COULD LAND ON THE MORGAN

There's not much to make you laugh at the British International Motorshow. Announcing new cars, new factories, increased output and more jobs is a serious business, but there is one launch taking place that is designed to raise a giggle — and money for a good cause, *writes Helen Mound*.

Driven to Laughter is a book of motoring cartoons that goes on sale this week at the show in aid of the motoring industry's benevolent fund, BEN.

Initiated by a group of motoring industry executive's wives — who go by the name of "Ben Her" — the little book is full of gags scribbled for motoring magazines throughout the last century by artists and cartoonists such as Michael Turner and John Ditchfield.

BEN was founded in 1905 specialising in help and care for anyone who had worked in the motor, bicycle or motorcycle industries. It is considered one of the most highly regarded charities in the world, frequently praised for its efficiency and size. Unlike other good causes that have dozens of charities offering to help, the motor industry is catered for solely by BEN.

Set up three years ago by the wives and partners of some of the motoring industry's top brass, Ben Her holds fund-raising events throughout the year. These women are dedicated to their cause, proudly admitting to shamelessly exploiting what standing they have in the industry in the interests of charity. In their first three years those exploits have raised an impressive £150,000.

Today BEN supports more than 6,000 families, all of whom have worked in various parts of the motor or allied industries (oil, petrol, components and vehicles, financial services and retail garages, distributors and motoring journalists).

Funds are raised through company and private support: BEN runs a payroll scheme among thousands of factory floor workers and the sale of virtually every car in Britain contributes 30p to the charity; many retailers add the same amount again.

This year BEN has spent £7million caring for people living in the community or in one of its four nursing homes. But the cost is growing. In 1985 it handled 103 new cases, last year more than 1,000 were considered.

As well as organising its biannual bash, at which anyone who's anyone in the motoring industry lets their hair down, and its annual luncheon when several hundred women gather for a rather boozy lunch, Ben Her is constantly seeking innovative ideas to help raise funds — such as the "collection of the world's greatest motoring cartoons".

Sheila Cooper, director of BEN's Welfare Services, is responsible for taking the difficult decisions about who receives help from the funds. She supplies anything from wheelchairs and days out for sick children, to life-saving operations and new homes.

Every day she faces some of the saddest possible stories of personal crisis; you'll rarely meet a woman who is more capable of making you weep — usually just before she asks you for support or to make a contribution.

Like the well-connected ladies from Ben Her, Sheila firmly believes in exploiting her talents for a good cause.

"I'm constantly faced with heartache in this job, so I'm not afraid to pull a few heartstrings in return if it gets me what I need for the charity," she argues.

In her speech at this year's annual Ben Her luncheon, Sheila gave a candid demonstration of her work by reading a heart-wrenching letter written to her from a bereaved mother whom she had been helping.

The result was exactly what she had been hoping for — emptied purses and enthusiasm to help from all the guests.

Driven to Laughter *goes on sale on October 15, published by Haymarket Motoring Publications, price £4.95.*

BEN, Motor & Allied Trades Benevolent Fund, 01344 20191.

DES JENSON

Ladies who lunch: made up of wives and partners of top executives, Ben Her has raised £150,000 since it was founded three years ago

Browse through the gallery that has artistic driving licence

DES JENSON

Jeremy Featherstone and web site display, left: "We already have buyers who, before taking delivery of a new work, had seen their purchases only on a computer screen"

Paintings, prints and sculptures of the car as art now have a home . . . and you can visit it on the Internet. **David Long** reports

In New York a Jaguar E-Type has been put on display at the Museum of Modern Art. The Louvre did the same thing a while back with a Range Rover. BMW sealed a David Hockney 8 Series coupé into a Damien Hirst-style fish (or should that be cow?) tank and stuck it outside London's Royal Academy. And in Italy a few years ago the hillsides outside Florence saw a dozen classic Ferraris similarly displayed.

Yet stylist Peter Stevens, whose work includes the McLaren F1, Jaguar XJR-15 and Lotus Elan, insists his designs are not Art. Rather, he told *Autocar* readers, they are merely "an elegant solution to an engineering problem".

So much for the Car-As-Art debate, but what about the car *in* art? The car designer may not be a Degas, but increasingly people want not merely to drive his designs but to draw, etch, sketch, paint, model and sculpt them.

At one end of the scale, Britain's classic car magazines carry advertisements for artists who will paint a portrait of your Porsche from a photograph. At the other, the big auction houses are selling more automotive art, albeit under the banner of "automobilia" rather than of traditional fine art. Now, somewhere between, the capital has its first purely automotive art gallery.

By opting for the outer reaches of West London instead of the traditional art-heartland of Cork Street in the West End, the founders of Gibson Moore Fine Art have secured a huge space in which to display a wide range of works. Based in Chiswick, Jeremy Featherstone and John McLagan have more than 2,500 square feet devoted to things automotive.

These range from limited-edition prints and lithographs to original drawings and sketches, figurative sculpture and a number of large expressionist paintings.

As well as sponsoring the Federation of Automotive Artists' display at the Goodwood Festival of Speed, Gibson Moore (the name is derived from the two partners' middle names) represents several well-known artists including Dexter Brown, Jim Bamber, Barry Rowe and Peter Miller. Prices range from under £300 for a pastel of Tazio Nuvolari's Auto Union to more than £5,500 for Dexter Brown's painting of a Ferrari 512 racing at Le Mans in 1972. Deliveries, appropriately, are made using a Volvo T estate rather than a more conventional panel van.

The gallery's new home at Nevin House (named in memory of another much respected painter, Frederick "Paddy" Nevin, who died last year) means it is less than a mile off the M4. In addition, it is on the Internet, having recently gone on-line with its own web site in a bid to bring the collection to an even wider audience.

"Obviously, people who are able to visit us in person will get a much better idea of precisely what we have on show," says Jeremy. "However, as we sell paintings and sculpture all round the world, our new web site is an important feature for many of our clients. Gallery sites like these are becoming standard practice throughout the art world and we already have several buyers on our books who, before taking delivery of a new work, had seen their purchases only on a computer screen."

> They have space for a wide range of works

This electronic network means existing clients can view paintings and sculptures from their own homes and offices or retrieve information on the collection, forthcoming shows and individual artists.

"We hope new clients will be able to find us too," says Jeremy. "They will come across our collection as they browse through the Internet. Obviously some of them will be surfing through the art pages, but the way our web site is set up means that anyone selecting key words will be able to access any of our stock which is relevant to that particular word. Somebody looking up 'Brooklands' or 'Ferrari', for example, will find the appropriate pictures in the collection."

A number of artists, including Sibella Makower and Tony Iadiciccio, have studios in the same building, but Gibson Moore's net connection means the partners can also source specific items or artist's work from around the world.

"Obviously we are close to the artists we have here," says Jeremy. "But communication via the Internet means we can also arrange [illegible] commissions by the many artists whose work is held in the gallery."

Gibson Moore Fine Art is at Nevin House, Reynolds Rd, London W4 5AR. Tel: 0181-987 0353. The web site can be found at http://www.gibson-moore.com

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NEW 1996 VW BEETLE LH drive, 1600cc, catalytic convertor, many extras. £8,950. Tel: 01782 680233.

GOLF VR6 Highline.

1996 N, 15,000 mls. Metallic blackberry, full leather, air con, 1 owner.

£19,000.

Tel 0151 707 8562 (H) or *0370 650333* or *0151 638 4104* (O).

Volkswagen at Dovercourt.

BATTERSEA

- 91J CORRADO G60. Green Pearl Metallic. 46,000 Miles. BVS Alloys. ESR. FSH
- 96N GOLF VR6. 5 Door. Auto. Dragon Green. 2,800 Miles. Alarm. CD
- 95N GOLF AVANTGARDE. Blackberry Metallic. BBS Wheels. 15,800 Miles. FSH
- 93L GOLF VR6. 5 Dr. 26,800 Miles. Windsor Blue. BBS Alloys. FSH
- 93K GOLF 1.8 CL. 5 Door. Montreal Blue. 37,000 miles. PAS. C/L. FSH
- 95N GOLF VR6. 3 Door. Twilight Metallic. Alloys. 5,800 Miles. Alarm. 1 Owner
- 93L SPORTLINE CONVERTIBLE. Flash Red. 29,800 miles. BBS Wheels. P/Hood
- 87E GOLF CLIPPER Sapphire Blue. 29,000 miles Automatic. F.S.H
- 95M PASSAT VR6. Windsor Blue. Automatic. 3,000 miles. ESR. Airbags
- 96M PASSAT VR6 ESTATE. Windsor Blue. 3,800 miles. ESR. Alloys. PAS
- 45N SHARAN VR6 GL. Sky Blue. Automatic. 6,000 miles
- 93L GOLF VR6. 5 Door. Windsor Blue. 28,800 miles, 1 owner

ST. JOHNS WOOD

- 95N SHARAN VR6 GL AUTO. Dragon. 8,000 Miles. ABS. PAS. CDL. Electric Windows
- 95M GOLF GTi. Concept Red. 9,800 miles. Red/Black Leather. Sunroof. Airbag. ABS. PAS. Alloys
- 95M GOLF VR6. 5 Door. Chilli Red. 8,000 miles. Black Leather. Heated Seats. Alloys. ABS. E/Sunroof
- 94L GOLF DRIVER. 3 door. Tornado Red. 16,000 miles. Alloys. Electric Roof. PAS. CDL
- 92K GOLF GL. Auto. Red. 32,000 miles. PAS. Electric Windows/Sunroof. ABS. CDL
- 95N POLO 1.4 CL. 3 Door. Choice of colours. PAS. Electric Front Windows. CDL
- 95K POLO FOXs. Choice of Colours
- 95M GOLF GTi 16V, 3 & 5 Drs. Met Paints. Choice of Four
- 95M POLO GLX. 5 Dr. Red. 3,000 Miles. ABS. Alloys. Sunroof. CDL. E/W. Airbag
- 95N CORRADO 16V. Wave. 9,800 Miles. ABS. Alloys. E/W. Sunroof. PAS. CDL
- 95M PASSAT 2.0 CL SALOON. Windsor Blue. 30,000 Miles. ABS. CDL. Airbag. Elec Sunroof & Windows

CAR OF THE WEEK - MANAGER'S CHOICE

91J 92 Model CORRADO GTII. Silver. 44,000 Miles. ABS. PAS. Alloys. Elec Sunroof

Dovercourt

[illegible]

Catching up with the Joneses

Alan Copps on Nissan's £9m bid to make the Primera a success

Peugeot 406: heroic images, remembered more for its music

If you've fallen out of love with Renault's Nicole, are fed up with babies squawking about Vauxhall Astras, have seen enough Volvo whirlwinds to last a lifetime and already found Peugeot's hero inside yourself, it's time to meet *Mr and Mrs Jones.*

This good-looking, upwardly mobile couple, who sleep in satin sheets and live in a high-tech house of glass, are about to become as familiar as any characters from the wacky world of television car advertising, as is their backing track, *Lifted*, by the Lighthouse Family.

That last item is a clue to the car they will be advertising. Apart from being one of the most-widely researched ads in recent times their commercial is the core of a £9 million campaign that unites two of the North-East's most celebrated exports, the Lighthouse Family and the Nissan Primera.

What this ad will be trying to pull off is one of the more sophisticated tricks in the world of marketing and branding which means so much when a new car is launched. If the new Primera is to succeed where its predecessor is admitted to have failed, then Brian Carolin, Nissan's marketing director, has to sell his car to an audience that consists mainly of salesmen.

The Primera is a good car (even my colleague, Kevin Eason, admits that, with reservations, on page 7). But it sells in a segment where the dominant players are the Ford Mondeo, Vauxhall Vectra and Peugeot 406 and where more than 80 per cent of all cars sold are to company drivers. Of those, the vast majority are "user choosers" people who may drive vast mileages on business and are allowed to choose any car within a set price range.

The old Primera was number nine on their list, not a success in anyone's terms. There was a reason for that: the old Primera appeared in late 1990. Until shortly before Nissan had been one of the great success stories of the Thatcher decade, a glowing example of foreign investment funding British export success, its Sunderland factory a pioneer face of Britain's new industrial approach. But, just as the Primera appeared, it ran into a serious legal wrangle with its erstwhile distributor, Octav Botnar (one which he only managed to square with the Inland Revenue this week). Thus the Primera crept out rather than being launched, £3 million was spent over its first 18 months. It was a good car, but no one knew it was there.

With the new car, Carolin knows he's in the big league and the launch campaign will be spent within eight weeks. Viewers will find Mr and Mrs Jones difficult to escape. They have been chosen not just for their good looks but because, according to research, they match the aspirations of potential buyers and avoid the excessive imagery in rival publicity campaigns.

> Viewers will find Mr and Mrs Jones difficult to escape

"The kind of people who might look at a Primera include an awful lot in sales and marketing. We spent six months of customer clinics and focus groups trying to find out how our brand was perceived and what customers wanted to see in an ad," says Carolin. "The research clearly identified a high level of advertising literacy and a backlash against campaigns perceived as having little substance and too much imagery."

What they wanted apparently was something that identified the brand and had humour. Although they wanted to see what the car looked like, detailed information was relatively unimportant, music was seen as vital. This sophisticated audience apparently recognises that you can't say anything much about a technical specification in a minute-long film. Interestingly, this is the conclusion of an overwhelmingly male survey. The most recent survey of women's attitudes came up with a demand for more information.

The story of Mr and Mrs Jones is simple. They wake up and he says: "I think I'll drive to work." He is glimpsed at the wheel of his Primera speeding through fields and a modern cityscape, then he arrives at his office. It is a room in his home and his wife, now out of bed, is there to greet him with a knowing and very fetching smile over the computer terminal. Cue for the key phrase: It's a driver's car, so drive it.

In some ways, certainly in understated humour, it's a bit of a steal from the ads for the Renault Laguna, the most-admired according to Nissan's research, in which viewers are convinced that a woman passenger is a mistress, until the driver takes her to a party for his wife. The 406 ad is remembered more for its music than its male-dominated imagery, which many of those canvassed described as irrelevant and disturbing.

The degree of research that went into the ad, produced by TBWA, the agency which also came up with the "Professionals" for the Nissan Almera, shows just how vital image is in an age when most cars are reliable and evenly matched in performance. It will be deemed to have succeeded if it lifts Nissan into sixth spot in the segment, selling 127,000 a year.

But if that happens it might also have something to do with Nissan's pricing policy. The 1.6 GX Primera, expected to be the best seller will cost £13,450. That's £520 less than a Peugeot 406 1.8 LX, £445 less than a Ford Mondeo 1.6 LX and £375 less than a *Vauxhall Vectra 1.6 LS.*

Mr and Mrs Jones: a sophisticated audience wants humour rather than technical information in television advertising for cars

ACCELERATED SELLING

No relief in sight from the motor show sales pitch

If you're heading for the NEC Motor Show, beware: your emotions are about to be shamelessly manipulated, *writes Simon Hacker*. You can't buy a car at the show, but you can be sold on one.

If you park and jump on a courtesy shuttle bus, Hyundai will already have ambushed you. In 1990, only 7,000 passers-by happened upon Hyundai's stand. Then they hit on "headrest promotions". In 1994, 30,000 people converged on the Korean badge.

Says exhibition promotions director Richard Farrow: "The front of the headrest cover is branded with a simple logo — but the back contains a pocket. When you're sitting there, with nothing to do for a couple of minutes, the desire to look inside the pocket becomes irresistible."

Open the pocket, and statistics prove that whatever lies inside will make a Lantra more magnetic than a Lexus, or even a Lamborghini.

In case you slip up.

The six seat Hijet MPV only £8,497 on the road

Daihatsu: a new conception in selling

If you judge such promotion a little in-your-face, at least the NEC has 1,200 cubicles at your convenience, where you can escape the razzmatazz. Make the most of an ad-free toilet stop, though: your minutes spent here are to become a prime promotion opportunity.

Convenience advertising is Farrow's new brainchild, too late for this year, but already booked for the next show. "The space on the back of a lavatory door and over each urinal is extremely valuable for getting a message across. Where else can you guarantee 100 per cent attention?"

First in the queue for the loo may be Daihatsu, whose campaign for the Hijet people carrier grabbed headlines with such unforgettables as: "It picks up five times more women than a Lamborghini".

Daihatsu's message gurus, Banks Hoggins O'Shea, have already designed an ad for the Hijet which was affixed to Durex machines in a trial scheme for London pubs and wine bars.

"The wording," a spokesman says, "was to the effect that if things don't go as planned, a capacious family vehicle doesn't have to cost the earth."

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And now, back to the studio

The Blairs have managed it but finding the perfect family portrait is a serious business

TOM REEVES

Families like mine don't have our portraits professionally done. We 1990s relaxed types like our snaps spontaneous. We're quite smug about that. Or we were until last week when the Blairs, of all people, released an official kids'n'sofa photograph. And they looked relaxed, quite 1990s. Clever Mr Blair and his family focus group.

Gently does it, though. We didn't even have formal pictures taken at our wedding, just friends snapping away all day. So having a family photo taken feels as if we're making a statement. Not having a spin doctor to hand, I asked Colin Harding, a curator at the National Museum of Photography, Film and Television in Bradford, what the statement is.

"The professionally-taken portrait is all about the importance you place on the family unit. People still go along to the photographic studio in their best clothes. This is the picture that goes on the wall. It's a different statement altogether from the snapshot," he says. Public, rather than intimate. That's probably why it didn't work when we set the timer on our Sigma SA 300 and tried DIY portraiture in the sitting room. We went for T-shirts and jeans — a genuine record of how we are after lunch, minus actual gobbets of banana on baby's front and mother's shoulder.

Immediately several things became clear, which is more than can be said for the final pictures. Controlling three small children and a self-timer is almost impossible. Cherie Booth was wise to leave the dead casual clothes to the rest of the family. But inspired by the Blairs, we were determined to see this thing through. They used the London photographer Anthony Crickmay, the top name in ballet photography as well as a portrait taker. His rates are described as "by negotiation" and "a matter of discretion". If you wish to negotiate discreetly with Mr Crickmay's people ring 0171-378 1300 or 0171-381 4440.

The advice of the man himself on the secrets of taking a family portrait is simple: "Not wishing to be smart-alec about it, getting it in focus in the main thing. And the *second is: bore them into relaxation.*" Easy when you know how.

Another top people's choice is the Harrods Portrait Studio (0171-730 1234). It costs £65 for a sitting, including 15-20 proofs, and £75 a head if you want a make-up artist. Prices for the picture range from £89 for a small, unframed desk portrait to £895 for a large, framed wall portrait bonded on canvas.

Being rather downmarket of new Labour, we went to our high street photographer, like generations of families before us. Edward Reeves in Lewes, Sussex, is said to be one of the oldest photographic studios in the country. Behind the shop front a long brick corridor takes you to the Victorian daylight studio via some of the old props used over the past 140 years. In one corner was a neck rest — rather like a pair of kitchen tongs — to keep your head still during the long exposure times of the early days.

"People now are being much more relaxed and casual about it," said Tom Reeves, great grandson of Edward. Relaxed? Actually, only a mixture of glove puppets and chocolate promises was saving two-year-old Jack from the neck rest. Still, it certainly beat dashing about between sofa and timer. We were smarter than at home, but not that much smarter. "Only about half our customers come in their Sunday best," Mr Reeves said. "The main thing is to wear what you're happy in." We left only £39 the lighter for eight prints. (For £20 more we could have had more poses, people and prints.)

Still making promises about chocolate, we next went round to our friend Colin and asked him to have a go. This made us even more relaxed — gin — and we felt too giggly for a really useful focus group.

So how did the three methods turn out? In the DIY shot there is a lurid, Frankenstein quality about the light. That's a rictus I'm wearing, not a smile. The strange blur at the bottom of the picture is the top of the table where the camera was resting.

In friend Colin's shot with the same camera, the door looks wonderful, the door knob ravishing. Sadly the focus doesn't stretch to the people in the picture. The children seem afflicted by mass infant toothache.

The Tom Reeves studio shot is the best. It's all in focus. Our faces don't look toasted or bleached. We all seem human and we look like a group. Jack and Beth look sweet, even if Rosie looks pensive.

So we've done it. But would you vote for us?

JILL PARKIN

ANTHONY CRICKMAY

Family portraits by Edward Reeves, top, start at £39. Rates for the Blair version, left, are "negotiable". The at-home DIY shot, above

War and peas at the table

Rose Wild wonders why children and clean plates don't go together

Someone has been teaching my children table manners. At three and four it's none too soon and obviously I could have tried harder but never mind. Mealtimes are suddenly poems of Please and Thank you and May I Get Down Now? What isn't coming through is any sign of willingness to eat what they're given.

Does it matter? They're big, cheerful and they don't look undernourished. So why should I mind if nothing passes their lips but pasta, tomato sauce and cheese until they leave home in 20 years' time? Father gave in long ago and saves everyone all sorts of grief by sticking unswervingly to the preferred menu with no extras or sneaky variations. When they were tiny and I was keen I used to read the instruction manuals so I know about not letting meals turn into war zones.

Nannies got into power struggles over last mouthfuls of peas and correct use of forks but I was above all that — up to a point. I still can't relax about the one-dish diet, can't resist trying the occasional sausage, or baked bean, anything for a change. And it's very annoying, if you're not the sort for whom knocking up little somethings in the kitchen is your weekend occupation of choice, to have your loving efforts greeted with tears and abuse. It's even worse if the children are not yours. I still find it hard to forgive the parents of little blighters who spurned my cooking in the days before I had children and before I'd gained the mystic wisdom about under-tens not eating mushrooms.

Which is where I part company with father. For these are social creatures; they have aunts and uncles and cousins and friends whom they visit for meals. And most importantly, they have a grandmother.

They are probably unusual among their contemporaries in that this grandmother vividly recalls not only the rationing of the Second World War but the stringencies of the First. When she was a child she was told to remember the starving children in Russia and waste remains anathema. My father got excitable about jam on door handles, but meals were generally stress-free. Indeed I was so well trained that, as a lunch guest at about my daughter's age, I ate a kidney omelette.

Its memory will live for ever. Never mind John Kennedy being shot. This was one of those freeze frame moments when the skin on your scalp goes tight and conversation fades to a distant buzz. But I ate the thing.

Such iron discipline doesn't accord with my mother's memories. If I ask how she achieved it, she will only say that she can't remember any of us not wanting to eat our food. This may have become regrettably true later, but I swear it wasn't then. The most helpful she could be was to say that today they see too much food on television.

After poo-pooing the idea and saying we don't buy all that stringy cheese and cereal with sugar on, I realise she might be on to something. We may not buy the cereals they advertise during cartoon intervals but there are at least four brands to which the aspiring muesli parent can respectably give house room, and there they all are, lined up on the shelf to be fought over. In our day it was cornflakes and that was your lot. The only room for initiative was in how much sugar you could shovel on top.

In the houses where I grew up the kitchen was a room somewhere off, where mother or whoever stamped around muttering and from which meals emanated, fixed, finite, inflexible, take them or leave them. Now we're all open plan and cook has to manage with tricycles round the knees and when it's all done they know perfectly well, because they've seen them, that there are at least six shapes of pasta in a basket on top of the fridge which would be preferable to the muck you've tried to pass off on them.

We've had it for the moment. My mother's right, the waste is awful. Even if I wanted to brandish starving children at them I can't see it working when their experience of the outside world doesn't stretch beyond the groaning shelves of Sainsbury's. Maybe if we don't persuade them that they have to leave their plates empty they won't acquire our middle-aged spreads.

Which leaves how to be kind to the cook. I suppose it's just a matter of age. I'm working on it and perhaps with the help of our mysterious manners fairy we'll get there soon, while we have a few friends left.

> 'In my day it was cornflakes and that was your lot'

Ruth Gledhill joins a celebration of a modern composer's Requiem in a timeless setting

Brompton's baroque splendour

Brompton Oratory, in the affluent heart of London, attracts 3,000 worshippers for ten Masses each Sunday

REQUIEM AETERNAM dona eis, domine, et lux perpetua luceat eis, sang the choir above us, the organ and orchestra fashioning soft harmonies in a way that made it impossible to believe the dead could be anything other than eternally at rest, perpetual light shining upon them. This was a Requiem Mass, so-called after the first word of the introit, to honour the late parishioners and benefactors of the Brompton Oratory, an extraordinary Roman Catholic church at the heart of London's most affluent quarter, attracting 3,000 worshippers across ten Masses each Sunday.

This was a rare opportunity to experience the unforgettable composition of Maurice Duruflé, who died as recently as 1986 but whose timeless work could almost have been written in the era of the medieval Benedictine plainsong on which it is based. The women, many seated alone in the wooden pews, wore black lace mantillas, and the men were soberly dressed in black or grey which, combined with the Italian baroque style of the church, seemed to take us out of 20th century London and into an earlier age of Spain or Italy.

Although this was the modern Mass, the Oratory fathers in black and gold chasubles faced the high altar, with its unbleached candles, for most of the service. A few communicants joined in at times, such as in the confession, *mea culpa, mea culpa, mea maxima culpa,* but most of us just stood, listened and meditated as the music led us into and beyond the necessary thoughts of life and death. The first Oratory was founded by St Philip Neri in Rome in the 16th century and there are now 70 houses and 500 priests living in these secular, as opposed to monastic, communities worldwide. The movement was brought here by Cardinal John Henry Newman after he went over to Rome in 1845. He founded an Oratory in Birmingham.

THE BROMPTON Oratory was founded by Father William Faber, the noted hymnwriter, who was received into the Catholic church a few weeks after Newman. He chose Brompton as the site despite reservations on the part of Newman, who thought the area "a neighbourhood of second-rate gentry and second-rate shops".

The parish today has a deserved reputation for conservatism, being devoutly loyal to the Pope, to its Archbishop, Cardinal Basil Hume of Westminster, and espousing in particular reverence for the Virgin Mary, an example set by St Philip, who used to say: "My sons, be devoted to the Madonna." Appropriately, for a Requiem, we were seated in the shadow of a full-length painting of Our Lady of Sorrows in the Seven Dolours Chapel, and the shadow deepened with the setting sun outside as the parish priest read out the names of parishioners who had died in the last year. We all remembered many others besides.

A baritone soloist in the *Domine Jesu Christe* and *Libera Me* sustained the mood of suspense and acceptance. Finally, in the *In Paradisum,* borrowed from the burial service, we offered a plea that all our late loved ones be led by the martyrs into paradise.

● *The Brompton Oratory, London SW7 (0171-589 4811).*

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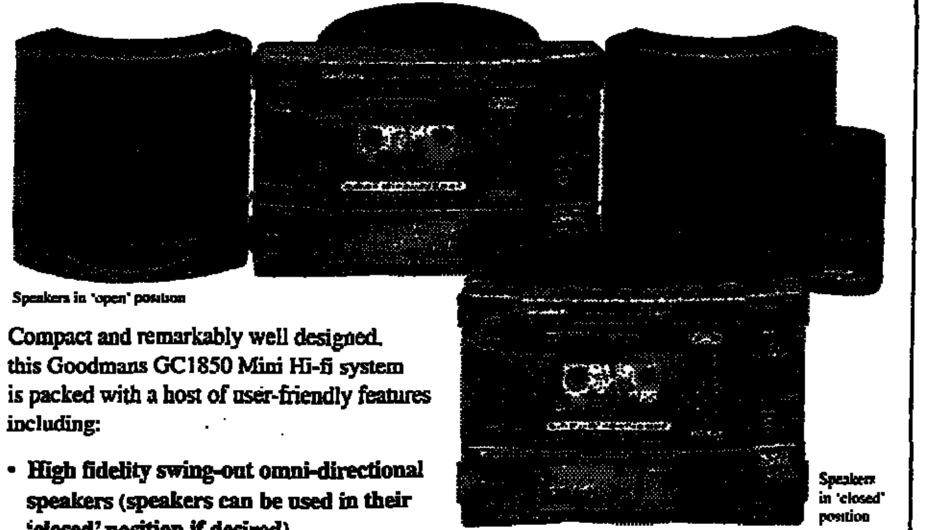
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The dog with a nose for French truffles
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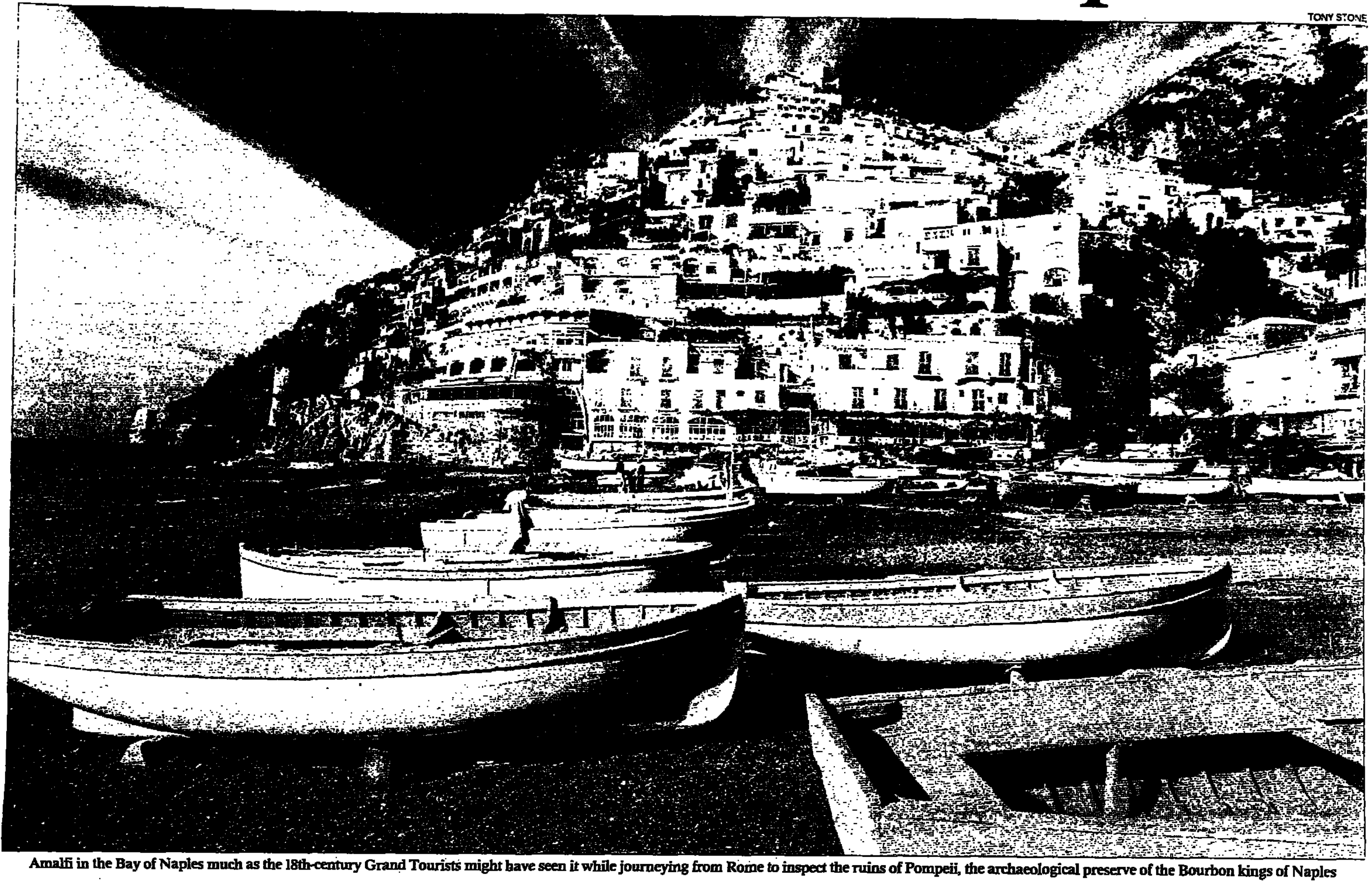

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Amalfi in the Bay of Naples much as the 18th-century Grand Tourists might have seen it while journeying from Rome to inspect the ruins of Pompeii, the archaeological preserve of the Bourbon kings of Naples

DAY ONE

WE ARE IN NAPLES, a party of six from London, about to embark on a Grand Tour of Italy and cover in five days the sites 18th-century gentlemen took at least six months to visit. We have not been carried over the Alps in chairs, nor been held in quarantine for two months. Air travel has put an end to all that. We also lack authenticity in our collective ignorance of the Latin texts that Grand Tourists used as their *vade mecum* to identify the places of antiquity. Nor do our phrase books contain such useful exhortations in Italian as, "Driver, whip on the horses, there are bandits behind us".

First stop is Pompeii, where we meet our English-speaking guide who is to take us on the statutory Priapic tour. Along with hundreds of other visitors we are shown paintings of phallic symbols, the brothels and private rooms of dubious purpose. There is, of course, much more to Pompeii than this. The site was discovered by accident in 1748 and became the archaeological preserve of the Bourbon kings of Naples.

Our 18th-century forebears would probably have been as fascinated as we were with the Roman gardens and orchards that have been replanted with what archaeologists have ascertained to be the original plants.

There are many more tours that Pompeii could offer, waiting to be devised.

In the afternoon we head back to Naples and the Capodimonte Museum, which reopened last autumn after major redecoration and a rehang. Grand Tourists would have been more interested in the evening entertainments and boar hunts laid on by the Bourbons, in this their hunting lodge, than the great Farnese collection of paintings. Among them we admire works by Michelangelo, Raphael, Botticelli, Titian, El Greco and Breughel.

This evening we are treated to seats in the royal box at the San Carlo opera house, built in 1737, to see *La Traviata*. Fans and hankies are brought out by the audience in equal quantities to cope with the heat and the emotion.

DAY TWO

LEAVING NAPLES at 9am we head up the motorway for Rome and arrive at the Colosseum by 12.30pm, in the searing heat. In a corner of this great ruin, the 18th-century antiquities dealer Thomas Jenkins had a flourishing business selling to Grand Tourists faked *intaglios* and cameos — the precursors of today's plastic souvenirs.

Our attempts to buy tickets to enter the Forum are thwarted by an official lack of change in the ticket office, though our eyes have unofficial evidence of the contrary. I muse on the fact that Grand Tourists would have found no fences or ticket offices. Their frustrations with Italian bureaucracy came in other forms.

Once inside, the magic of the ruins takes over and we marvel at the size of the Basilica of Constantine and speculate where Gibbon was sitting when he decided to write *The History of the Decline and Fall of the Roman Empire*. After lunch, to the Capitoline Museums, opened in 1734 and the first public museum in Italy. These museums of antique sculpture were a must on the Grand Tour and the layout has hardly changed since the 18th century. The statue of *The Dying Gaul*, a barbarian captive with a rope round his neck, killed by a gladiator, has true classical nobility. The *Capitoline Venus*, about whose charms many Grand Tourists waxed lyrical, is roped off in her private rotunda.

In Piazza del Collegio Romano nearby, the Galleria Doria Pamphilij, which houses the excellent collection of paintings that this great Roman family opened to visitors more than 200 years ago, has been restored and rehung.

DAY THREE

OFF TO TIVOLI, whose cool setting in the Tiburtini hills an hour (by road) outside Rome attracted Roman emperors and aspiring popes. At Hadrian's Villa we wander through the enormous expanse of ruins, marvelling at the amount of money this most cultivated of emperors must have poured into his pleasure complex. Our guide suggests that every unidentified building was a library. We later discover that Grand Tourists were equally baffled, but it is much more likely that everything that was not a bath house was a dining room, or triclinium.

We find the spot where 18th-century architect Robert Adam sketched the ruins and see the stucco ceiling decoration that inspired some of his own designs. Many of the most famous classical statues that 18th-century collectors brought back to furnish their English country houses were found here, in a marsh.

The Villa d'Este, that other pleasure garden of fountains and leafy alleys, built by Cardinal Ippolito d'Este in the 16th century, is on the edge of the modern town of Tivoli. This, too, is slowly sinking into ruination, the bases of the fountains encrusted with moss and some fountains no longer working. The statue of *Diana of the Ephesians*, which was repeatedly sketched in the 18th century, no longer has water spurting from her many breasts. Perhaps this is due to modern censorship. Enough plumes, jets and fans of water still play, however, to evoke the appeal of the gardens to the Rococo artist Fragonard, whose sketch we can match to the original grotto.

We have nothing on record about Grand Tourists swimming in sulphur baths, but when our request is put to our hosts, the Tivoli tourist board, it is clearly eccentric enough to qualify as odd English behaviour in the 18th-century tradition. Only one of our party goes so far as to scoop up the black, sulphurous slime floating on the water of the outdoor baths and plaster it on to his face in order to better absorb its health-giving properties.

DAY FOUR

TO THE VATICAN museums and the magnificent collections of classical sculpture, which are the best in the world. After all, the Vatican controlled all archaeological excavations in the Papal States in the 18th century and were entitled to their pick of one-third of the finds. In those days the long galleries in which they were (and still are) displayed were painted with scenes of Egypt, Greece or ancient Rome, as appropriate to each statue. The beautiful *Sleeping Ariadne* was then thought to be Cleopatra and had a background of palm trees.

DAY FIVE

FLORENCE. Grand Tourists never stayed long in Florence; they weren't much interested in medieval or Renaissance art. One sight that was *de rigeur* however was the classical sculpture belonging to the Medici in the Tribuna and galleries of the Uffizi. Though paintings on the walls of the round Tribuna have changed, the statues of *Venus de' Medici*, the two wrestlers and so on are still there. Zoffany painted a famous picture for Queen Charlotte of all the Grand Tourists in here admiring the art in 1772-7.

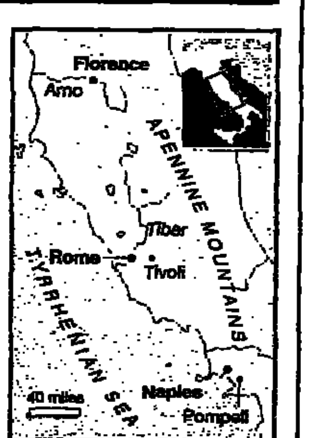
In the Brancacci chapel of the church of Santa Maria del Carmine, on the far side of the Arno, I see the frescoes by Masaccio, Masolino and Lippo Lippi in their recently restored state. In 1770, Thomas Patchy, an artist who painted some acerbic caricatures of Grand Tourists, published a volume containing 24 engravings after these beautifully painted scenes. The figure of Eve in the *Expulsion from the Garden of Eden* is modelled on the *Venus de' Medici*, underlining the classical inspiration of much Renaissance art.

I end my whistlestop Grand Tour in Casa Guidi, near the Pitti Palace where Robert and Elizabeth Browning lived for 14 years from 1847, relics of the Grand Tour of the 18th century. The apartment is now owned by Eton College, but let out to visitors by the Landmark Trust. The furniture and decorations have been returned to as they were in the Brownings' day. I reflect that to do the Grand Tour properly in modern-day Italy, the very best solution would be to live there.

ISABEL CARLISLE

● *The author was a guest of Magic of Italy.*

PLANNING THE GRAND TOUR



■ The Magic of Italy (sister company Italian Escapades), 227 Shepherds Bush Road, London W6 7AS (reservations 0181-748 7575) offers a range of holidays to Italy including, from 1997, a ten-day Grand Tour of Rome, Florence, Venice and Verona by luxury coach. This costs £999, including flights into Rome and out of Venice and 4-star B&B accommodation.

A range of flexible two-night city breaks to Rome, Florence, Venice, Naples and Palermo with Italian Escapades are available from £261, including return flights.

■ In Naples, the author stayed at the Hotel Excelsior, via Partenope 48 (00 39 81 7640111), single from £122 a night, double £182; in Rome, the Hotel Claridge, viale Liegi 62 (00 39 6841 9212), single from £105 a night, double £147. To stay in Keats's House in Rome, or Brownings's Casa Guidi in Florence, contact the Landmark Trust on 01628 825925.

■ Visits to the opera are available as part of a package with the Magic of Italy or Italian Escapades. For individual bookings to the opera (without travel arrangements) call Liaisons Abroad on 0171-376 4020.

■ Books to read: *The Child of Pleasure* by G. D'Annunzio (Dedalus, £7.99, ISBN 0 946 62660 X); *Florence. The Biography of a City* by Christopher Hibbert (Penguin, £15, ISBN 0 140 16644 0); *Naples 44* by Norman Lewis (Eland, £8.99, ISBN 0 907 87145 3); *Italy: The Rough Guide* (£12.99, ISBN 0 864 42224 5).

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Malaysia and the Philippines: The privately-owned island of Pangkor Laut and idyllic Marina del Nido

Life in the lapping waves of luxury

"Paradise island" as a description can get a trifle overworked. It is applied to any small landmass with silver beaches, blue seas, bluer skies and a smattering of tropical forest. Not to mention endless sunshine and luxury accommodation.

However, when applied to Pangkor Laut, a tiny island off the north west coast of Malaysia, the description is more than apt but with one marked difference —-the sea is green. It changes from the palest jade to a deep, deep emerald as you reach the bay of that name. For Emerald Bay on the far side of the 300-acre island has to be one of the most perfect beaches in the world. Bound on three sides by towering rainforest, it is as dramatic as it is beautiful. It also has first-class resort service — loungers, parasols, mountains of fresh towels and attendants to bring you food and drink. You can take a jeep to the bay or take a 20-minute walk through the jungle.

From this beach in 1945 Col Freddy Spencer Chapman, a British commando who had spent three years fighting behind Japanese lines, swam out to a waiting submarine and safety. (He wrote a book of his experience, *The Jungle is Neutral*, and Chapman's Bar on Emerald Bay is named after him. Later this year his widow will visit Pangkor Laut for the first time.

When Freddy Chapman and his fellow officer Major Richard Broome pitched up on Pangkor Laut it was uninhabited. Today this emerald speck on the edge of the Straits of Malacca is a privately-owned island with 184 rooms and suites — some set among gardens, some on the edge of the jungle while others are built kampong-style on stilts over the sea.

It also sports two further beaches, three swimming pools (the one at Royal Bay is a glamorous combination of dark blue tiles and black marble) tennis and squash courts, a gym and health centre and a water sports area, not to mention seven restaurants serving some of the finest food anywhere. Choose from Chinese, Thai, Japanese, Indian or Nonya (an indigenous Malay mix). Feast on the lobster curry, savour a *fondue Chinoise*, enjoy a Malaysian fish-pot, a salad of lotus root or tiger prawns with ginger.

To work up an appetite take a trek through the rainforest which is almost two million years old. The resort has its own conservation specialist in Mr Yip, a knowledgable and passionate man. He likens the destruction of the world's rainforests to having a library full of wonderful books which is being burned down before you can read them. He will take you on guided treks across the island pointing out plants, trees, birds and fungi as you go. He also arranges for iced towels and water at some halfway point.

Only 16 per cent of the island is taken up by the resort and a pledge has been made that no more than 20 per cent will ever be developed — somehow you know that under Mr Yip's stewardship this promise will be kept. You do not have to leave the poolside to enjoy the wildlife. In the early morning and late afternoon troops of macaque monkeys swing out of the jungle to play along the beach and sniff around for titbits. During the day the silence is broken by yellow pied hornbills chomping on the fruits of the MacArthur's palms.

When you feel more energetic, a trip to the larger island of Pangkor is worth the effort and will take only 30 minutes by boat. It also gives you the opportunity to see the boats and ships which make the Straits one of the busiest waterways in the world — as well as one of the murkiest in places. After tourism the island's main industry is fishing and preserving anchovies. The boats go out in pairs, one to catch and one to cook and when they arrive back in port the fish are laid out to dry in the sun, glinting like sequins.

However, once you have bought your preserved anchovies, posted your cards, visited the snake farm, the 17th-century Dutch fort and admired the child-sized version of the Great Wall of China you will begin to hanker for paradise. It is time to return to your little house on stilts where the gentle lapping of the water soothes and calms. It is a sound impossible to tire of, unlike the never-ending strains of Pavarotti which are heard in most bars, restaurants and reception areas.

Since the world's greatest tenor gave a concert to celebrate the opening of Royal Bay two years ago his singing has lingered on. But who am I to carp? Should I be good enough to reach the other-worldly paradise I expect to hear him singing with the angels.

JO FOLEY

● *The author was a guest of The Malaysia Experience.*

FACT FILE

■ The Malaysia Experience (0181-424 9548) offers five nights in Pangkor Laut and two nights in Kuala Lumpur from £895 per person in a *hill villa and from* £1,169 per person in a sea villa. The trip includes return flights from London to Kuala Lumpur on Malaysian Airlines.

■ Books to read: *The Jungle is Neutral*, by F. Spencer Chapman (1949, out of print); *They came to Malaya*, by J.M.-Gullick, OUP £12.95 (ISBN 0 195 8 8604 6). *Malaysia and Singapore Handbook*, by Joshua Eliot, Trade and Travel £12.99 (ISBN 0 844 24909 2).

The luxury villas at Coral Bay in Pangkor Laut are built on stilts over the sea

SPECTRUM

There are only four bungalows at the Marina del Nido on Palawan Island. The marina has no telephones or fax machines and limited electricity

Let's sing vivat Regina

I know what you're thinking. No sooner does a travel writer describe the perfect place, quite without flaw, than within a week the mob despoils it.

So at the Marina del Nido, in the Philippines Palawan archipelago, the sand which now feels like fine talc between your toes will soon be littered by the mob with their cigarette ends and discarded *suntan lotion bottles* as they pack the beach shoulder to greasy shoulder.

Dozens, no, hundreds of shriekers will throng the clear-blue water through which you can see multi-coloured fish swimming through coral hills and valleys, where the yobbos will drop disgusting things onto the coral and frighten away the fish.

At night, under a deep blue sky in which you can see every constellation you ever heard of, the riotous mob will cluster at the bar, swilling, baying, and being sick, shattering the night as you try to sleep in your bamboo bungalow with the fan circling slowly overhead, listening to the lizards chunking in the dark.

This is impossible. It *cannot* happen. There are only four perfect bungalows on the perfect sand at the edge of the perfect sea at Marina del Nido, and each one accommodates *only four people*. The bar is in a fifth building, a round pavilion open to the air, with a peaked roof. Like the bungalows it is made of bamboo and local timbers, strapped together, very elegant and open to every zephyr. *There you eat or sit at* the tiny bar, where a young island woman makes you drinks and offers you titbits to help them down.

All this is the brainchild of Regina Lim, a Filipina-Chinese architect of such illustrious lineage that her general grandfather, killed by the Japanese, is on the one *thousand peso note*.

Ms Lim, as elegant as her buildings, and who loves to dissect your grilled fish which was pulled out of the water a few hours earlier, imagined a place without phones or faxes — only a radio communicates with the world — and only a few hours of electricity, just enough to read by in the sonorous night before you fall asleep. You learn to love candles.

She wanted a quiet place, where you pay a small tax to help protect the environment against rubbish, spear fishing, coral breaking, and snorkelling in coves where it would disturb the turtles. If you bring plastic and glass bottles, batteries, and lighters, you must take them with you when you leave.

The first impression of Marina del Nido is amazing. You will have flown for an hour — be sure you have a confirmed ticket — in a small plane from Manila to a big island in the Palawan archipelago which edges into the vast South China sea — Conrad-country. You land on a dirt strip. You collect your single bag — bring few clothes — and walk across to a still green river under the tropical trees.

A motor launch then takes you down the river for three minutes to the sea where it plunges through the surf. Another three minutes and you clamber into a waiting banca, a long narrow double-outrigger. As you sit under an awning one of the crew whacks open a coconut for you to drink from.

An hour passes as you glide past islands, each with a strip of beach, coconut palms, and a soaring limestone cliff. These little mountains, home to millions of bats and the swallows whose nests Chinese boil up for the slimy soup which costs a mandarin's ransom, dot the sea. At last, during the most spectacular sunset you ever saw, a particularly beautiful island appears. Malapacao. Just behind the extra-long white beach and in the shadow of a sway-backed mountain, sit four bamboo bungalows with circular porches, and a pavilion. A jetty points into the sea. This is Marina del Nido.

Once there, what is there to do, besides eating the prawns, lobsters, grilled fish, roast pork, local chicken and fruit? You sway in the hammock slung on your own porch and read *and sleep. Borrow* a face mask and snorkel, walk across that silky sand, wade into the pellucid water, swim ten strokes and when you are over the reef peer into the coral-fish jungle.

At dusk, at six o'clock exactly, you watch one million fruit bats flutter out of their caves high overhead and stream across the sky pursued by sea-eagles which appear at 6:01 ready to swoop down and pick off their dinners. The remaining *999,993* bats swarm two miles over the sea to a mangrove swamp where batnip grows.

You can bring your own yacht here if you want — arrangements can be made for mooring and maintenance by trained personnel. Or you can hire a *banca* outrigger for the day for a gentle cruise to other islands, other beaches, where lagoons conceal caves into which you crawl and gaze up at the cathedral ceilings. You lie on that beach, snorkel or swim, nap, and eat the picnic the crew lays out for you. If you drop a fragment of grilled chicken busy little hermit crabs scuttle up and trundle it away.

Sometimes Regina gives a party. There are flowers and candles on the tables which have been carried out of the pavilion onto the grass. By now you have become slightly friendly with the other guests, from France, Italy, Britain, and Hong Kong.

Marina del Nido is a sheltered bay, so one or two have anchored their yachts *off shore. You see tiny red* lights across the glittering water. There is a roast pig. As you eat under the stars water laps nearby and fish *leap and splash*.

On late afternoons Rigor the chef may appear. He will already have taught you how to explore the coral reefs, to *slither into caves. He may* invite you onto the jetty to fish for squid. You catch one or two who fall for Rigor's wooden shrimp-lookalike *lure with red glass eyes*.

There is a frantic splash, a spurt of ink into the air and soon a foot-long thing from outer-space lies heaving on *the jetty, translucent, creamy* white, with huge bulging eyes in whose centres gleam golden disks. You eat these creatures deep fried that *night. You can keep your* calamari.

JONATHAN MIRSKY

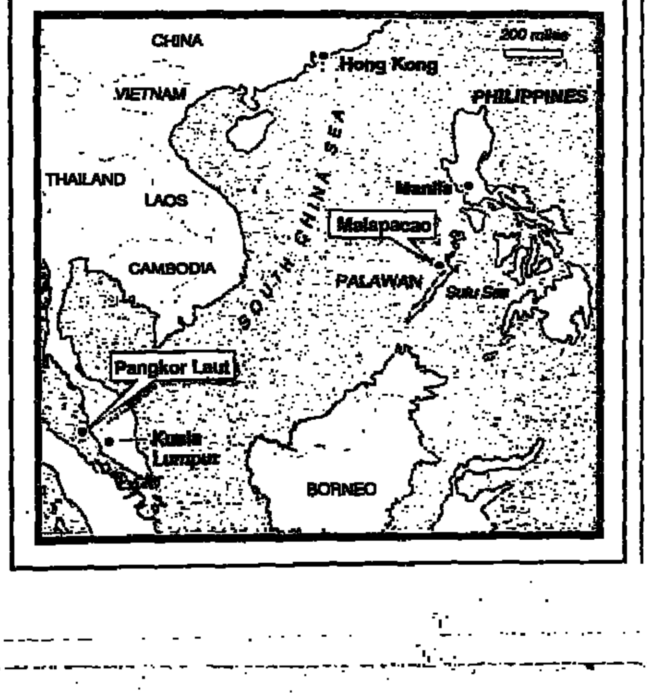
MARINA DEL NIDO FACT FILE

■ Philippine Airlines (01773 830951) fly from Heathrow to Manila (£530 return) and Manila to El Nido (£110 return). Do not leave the UK without a confirmed ticket for El Nido. Transfer from landing strip to Marina *Del Nido by outrigger, £14 round trip. Outrigger hire* £60 per day and £30 per half day.

■ Accommodation on Marina del Nido costs £68 per *night all year round (£16 for children). Three meals per* day is £27 (£13 for children). To book bungalows telephone Manila 00 632 831 1487, fax 00 632 8319816.

■ Visas are required for more than a 21-day stay from the Philippine Tourist Board (0171-499 5443). *Environmental fund on island is £10 and all rates* subject to 10 per cent service plus government taxes. No phone or fax on island, all communication by radio.

■ Books to read. The Travel Bookshop, 13 Blenheim Crescent, W11 suggests: *The Ghosts of Manila*, by James Hamilton-Paterson, Vintage £6.99 (ISBN 0 099 29811 2). *Little Brown Brother*, by Leo Wolff. OUP £9.99 (ISBN 0 195 88986 X). *Phillipines Travel Survival Kit*, Lonely Planet £9.95 (ISBN 0 864 42224 5).



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International skiing: Part two of **Doug Sager's** detailed round-up of ski countries features American resorts

The Brits head for the west

LESS than a decade ago skiing in America was regarded as an extravagant option. Now it is commonplace. Last winter one tour operator alone took 5,000 British schoolchildren to ski there. But the advantages have to be weighed against the inconveniences.

American holidays are ideal when stretched over two weeks and several resorts, such as Aspen, Breckenridge and Vail, where ski passes cover neighbouring resorts at no extra cost. Serious skiers who value snow quality know they won't be "browned off". And parents know that patrolled and enforced slow skiing zones and fenced-off learning areas make skiing in any American resort far safer than in the Alps.

Against this is the first few days of jet lag at high altitude after a ten-hour flight. And, despite the excellent accommodation and skiing, the price tag, especially for ski passes, is higher than for most resorts in the Alps.

ASPEN, COLORADO

FIFTY years old this winter, Aspen still sizzles. Small and flat enough to walk around in comfort, it entertains on every corner. Less expensive than Courchevel or Zermatt, its is devoid of *nouveau riche* pretension and comes across as a real skiing town.

The ski pass covers Aspen Mountain (no snowboarders), Snowmass (12 miles away) and Aspen Highlands, one of the steepest and most rewarding hills in America.

BRECKENRIDGE, COLORADO

NO AMERICAN resort is more popular with British skiers, this year breaking into the top ten resorts. Tame and twee used to be the reputation, but the terrain has become wilder way up top in the North and Way Out chutes sectors.

Breckenridge ski passes are valid at nearby Keystone and hard-core Arapahoe Basin, the latter a time-warp of old-fashioned seat-of-the-pants skiing, where tattered duct tape is a more common decoration than fairy lights.

CRESTED BUTTE, COLORADO

A SURPRISING number of Britons have bought second homes in Crested Butte, mixing well with local residents, famous for their mountain bikes fitted with ski racks and studded snow tyres, and for skiing naked on "Crested Butts" closing day. Another tradition, free ski passes for a month at the beginning and two weeks at the end of the season, continues this year.

It is a venue for snowboard and skiing daredevil competitions, and prides itself on a tolerance for eccentrics.

VAIL, COLORADO

THE MOST popular resort in America with American skiers, Vail suffers and soars on its American values. It's big, twinned with Beaver Creek, and about to merge with Keystone, Breckenridge and Arapahoe Basin. But despite its legendary back bowls and a rating as number one in America for *après ski*, it's anodyne.

Excellent grooming, quick lifts and a car-free village make Vail the best introduction to America for first-time visitors. And it comes closest of any resort in the world to being all things for all skiers, with consequent caveats.

JACKSON HOLE, WYOMING

THE WEATHER is brutal, the tram needs replacing and the town is choked with queues. Skiing is 12 miles from town, via an irregular and grindingly slow bus. This is the resort which defines America's best skiing experience. The town is a treasure, still with an unspoilt, tobacco-chewing, cowboy ambience. The view from the shuttle-bus window is out of a John Ford movie. And the skiing is hard-core heaven — bumps, powder steeps and fall-away chutes. Few frills, full thrills.

TAOS, NEW MEXICO

AMERICA's most European-inspired skiing, with the best ski school on the continent, yet Taos is mercifully spared overcrowding by its inconvenient access. About three hours from Albuquerque, the town is a further 19 miles from the ski area. This, however, is an area of radiant sunshine, Pueblo villages and an "artists' colony" — once inhabited by D.H. Lawrence.

The skiing is steep, even intimidating. But the standards set at the ski school by its Swiss founder, Ernie Blake, help counter this.

ALTA, UTAH

THAT RARITY, an American resort with gritty character, and that impossibility, one which is unquestioningly affordable, Alta needs some serious drawbacks to keep its snow from being swamped. Indeed, accommodation is limited and basic in character, the road is often closed by avalanches, the lifts are ancient and slow, and there is no nightlife. Yes, but the lift ticket costs $27 (£17) a day for the best quality snow (about 40ft per winter) on the planet. And snowboarders are banned.

KILLINGTON, VERMONT

IT SEEMS perverse to ski *anywhere* on America's eastern coast, renowned for its sheet ice, numbing cold and horrendous overcrowding — but all America's worst skiers certainly do. Killington is the pride of New England. Everything man can do, in terms of modern lift networks, snow-making and trail-marking, has been done here best. When nature condescends, as it did last year with tons of fresh snow, Killington's gladed trails can rival the best of the west.

SQUAW VALLEY, CALIFORNIA

"THE BEST thing about Squaw," some say, "is that people from LA ski at Heavenly." Nearby Heavenly, straddling the California-Nevada border, is America's largest skiing area, right on the shores of Lake Tahoe.

An Olympic resort, Squaw is American skiing with class. Overcrowded on weekends, its vast snowfields are empty during the week and encompass terrain which ranges from awe-inspiring to ego-inflating.

BIG SKY, MONTANA

British skiers are now pushing the frontiers to Montana, a mecca for lots of light, dry snow. Big Sky has America's longest vertical drop (about 4,220ft) and is permanently devoid of queues. There is little in the way of amenities, and access is awkward — it takes at least an hour over indifferent roads to get from the airport at Bozeman. But sufferers from lift-queue burnout consider it a pilgrimage, and a privilege, to ski the Big Empty.

AMERICAN SKIING FACT FILE

■ TOUR OPERATORS: Crystal (0181-399 5144) is the leader in ski tours to America, with 20 resorts.
Inghams (0181-780 4444) offers 11 resorts, eight with catered chalets.
Neilson (0133-239 4555) features five resorts in Colorado, none with chalets.
Thomson (0990 329329) and First Choice (0161-745 7000) offer four Colorado resorts, with hotel or condominium accommodation.
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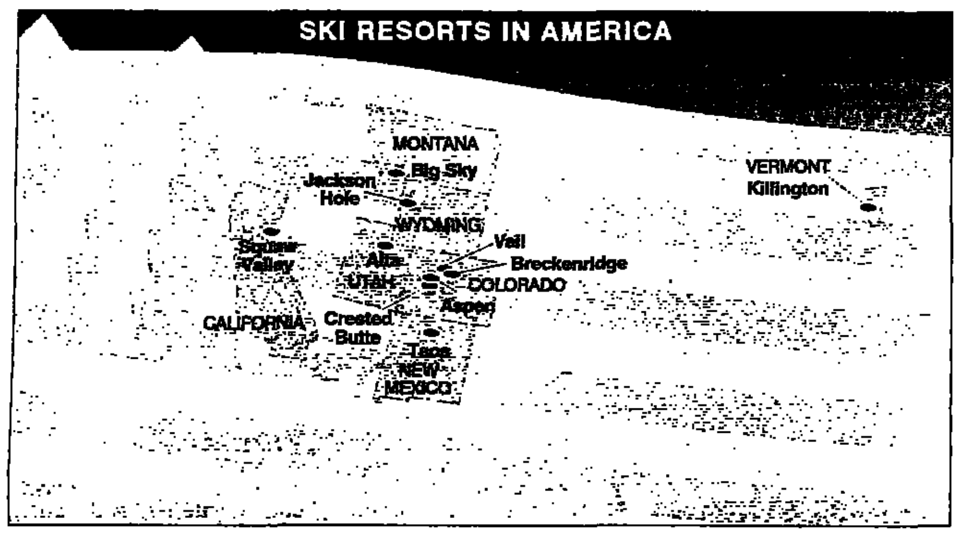
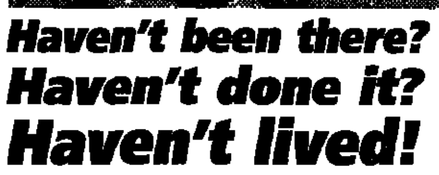
Ski Independence (0990 550555) features a price-conscious programme, including chalets in some of its 17 resorts.
Virgin (01293 617181) flies to Boston and California, offering holidays in New England, Utah and Tahoe.
Ski Equipe (0161-440 0010) offers a catered, working ranch chalet outside Crested Butte.

■ SOME operators quote prices for rooms based on four people sharing, making holidays seem to be cheaper than they really are. Many luxury chalets ban children unless the whole chalet is booked by one party.

Going places, fast: Colorado, which includes Aspen, Breckenridge, Crested Butte and Vail, vies with the Alps and has some of the best skiing and accommodation in America

SKI RESORTS IN AMERICA





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DAY 7 Visit the imposing Eight Outer Temple followed by the visit to Bangcui Peak by cable car. (BL)
DAY 8 Drive back to Beijing for the short flight to Xian and transfer to the tourist class Empress Hotel. (B)
DAY 9 Full day visit to the world renowned Terracotta Warriors, the nearby Hua Qing Hot Spring and Banpo Neolithic Museum. Back in the City, visit the Ming City Wall. (BL)
DAYS 10 Fly back to Beijing for 2 more nights. (B)
DAY 11 At leisure providing opportunities for some last minute shopping for silk, porcelain, cloisonne and lacquerware. (B)
DAY 12 Depart Beijing in the afternoon, arriving at Heathrow the same day. (B)
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	Mar 30	968	(175)
	Apr 13, 20: May 4, 18	998	(175)
	Jul 27: Aug 10, 24	1188	(175)
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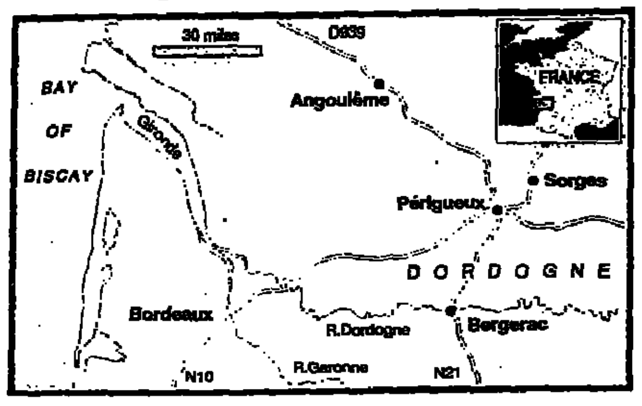
France: One man and his dog in the Périgord countryside lead hunters by the nose to the region's 'black gold'

Truffles worth sniffing about



Like many city-dwellers, I suspect, I love the idea of huntin', *shootin' and* fishin', but I do have a spot of bother with the business end of such things. Saddle me up, draw me a peg and . . . do whatever *it is that* fishing people do, but please don't ask me to *kill anything. Nothing* ethical or moral about that, just a bad case of soft, southern, suburban squeamishness. You can go away and can kill *things* to your heart's content and, with the exception of the fox, *I shall be delighted to share* the end result with you at dinner. Just spare me the grisly details.

But now help is at hand for *people* like me who also enjoy an energetic day out in *the countryside followed* by a memorable dinner. You get to dress up (boots or wellingtons definitely, beret optional), you become master of a highly trained working dog and, best of all, not a single *drop of blood is shed in the pursuit of your fiendishly* elusive quarry. In short, I have discovered the joys of truffle-hunting.

A lot of myths surround truffles, most of them invented by the French to put *us foreigners off.* But a bright, wintry morning spent in the Périgord countryside in the company of Henry Dessolas and his tireless, truffle-hunting dog, Kiki, will dispel most of them.

Truffles, or *Tuber melanospermum*, are not impossible to find by amateurs, just *difficult. In* a couple of hours, with the help of M Dessolas and his dog, we found five in the grounds of the aptly named Château des Truffes.

To be precise, Kiki found four, which he signalled by pawing at the ground in a particular spot. M Dessolas would then dig down with a small pick-axe, sometimes successfully, sometimes not. Either way, Kiki got a piece of meat as reward. As his owner said, if Kiki indicated there was a truffle there, there probably was, but sometimes it was too deep to be got at.

The fifth truffle (one of two decent, golf-ball sized specimens we found) was spotted by M Dessolas while Kiki was pre-occupied with something more interesting. Suddenly, M Dessolas stopped, sniffed magnificently and dropped to his knees.

"Regardez les mouches," he whispered. We regarded and there, indeed, was a thin column of tell-tale truffle flies rising from the soil. A couple of swings of his mini-pick axe, *et voila* . . .

Proudly M Dessolas held the truffle aloft for us to inspect, and sniff. I inhaled deeply and immediately joined *the long line of writers* who have failed to come up with the right adjectives to describe the aroma of the truffle. "Earthy," I scribbled *down rather feebly in my* notebook, hoping to come up with something better later. I failed.

One of the old myths about *truffle-hunting is the need for* pigs to track them down. M Dessolas gave a shrug of disgust when the subject was broached. Pigs were greedy, uncontrollable and had virtually gone out with the ark, he said. But then he recalled that he did know of one old *peasant, who lived nearer* the Dordogne, who still kept a truffle-hunting pig. "But he charges 2,000 francs [about £266] a session."

Another truffle myth is not so much a myth as a mystery. Truffles, the black gold of France, are expensive. But nobody seems to know how *expensive. Recent quotes* have ranged from £200 a kilo to almost £500 a kilo.

In search of the truth, I spent a sunny morning at the Saturday *market in* Périgueux. The stalls were stuffed with every bit of duck and goose you could imagine (and several you might rather not) but of truffles, fresh truffles, there was no sign. It seemed we had missed the annual truffle *market held nearby* at Sorges by a week. For the moment, the whole of Périgord was fresh out of truffles, and the mystery of what they *really cost remained.*

But we had truffles. Thanks to M Dessolas, Kiki and those obliging flies we had five, which brings me to *an important bit of truffle*-hunting etiquette. The hunt *has its own rules* — especially when it comes to dividing the spoils.

Tradition has it that when the services of a truffle-hunter have been called on the truffles found are divided equally between the landowner and the truffle-hunter. It is, or was, tradition that evolved long before we British started to fly into Bor*deaux to try our luck.*

Happily for us, there is a new convention: . the truffles are divided three ways, a third to the truffle-hunter, a third to the landowner and a third to the visitor.

Magnanimously, M Dessolas waived his entitlement. It had been his pleasure and Kiki's, of course — if our host could perhaps allow him to *come back one afternoon and* try again . . ? Our host agreed and then, even more generously, said he would be content with the three small truffles, perfect for flavouring some oil.

That left five of us to fight over two precious bits of fungi. *At that point. I had a* vision of trying to explain to a Customs officer at Heathrow that the fragrant lumps of organic matter lurking in the bottom of *that small* polythene bag were a few grams of perfectly legal Périgord Gold. I waived my entitlement immediately.

To be honest, my generosity stemmed largely from the knowledge that we were about to lunch at Auberges des Truffes in Sorges, one of *the best truffle restaurants in* the region. Our own truffles spent the afternoon nestling in the château's egg basket. The climax to the day was a perfect, if rather piggy, late supper of the best scrambled eggs I have ever tasted.

MATTHEW BOND

● *The author was a guest of Crystal France.*

CEPHAS

Though pigs are normally associated with snouting for truffles, in the Périgord it's a dog's job to sniff out the well-hidden, precious and tasty tubers

FACT FILE

- ■ Crystal France (0181-390 3335) organises truffle-hunting weekends for a minimum of four people throughout the season, from early November to the end of March.
- ■ A three-night break (Fri-Mon) costs £399 per person, including flights, accommodation at the four-star Château des *Truffes, car hire and a* welcome hamper.
- ■ Gourmet Espionnage (0117-924 3617) offers truffle weekends for parties of eight between December 1996 and February 1997 at £756 per person, including flights, two nights in a three-star *hotel and truffle dinner* tastings.
- ■ Reading: the Travel *Bookshop, 13 Blenheim* Crescent, London W11, suggests: *Truffles — the Black Diamond and Other Kinds*, by Jean Marie Rocchia (Avignon, £19.95, ISBN 2 879 23050 0); *Travels with a Donkey in the Cévennes*, by R.L. Stevenson (OUP, £4.99, ISBN 0 192 82629 8); and *Cadogan Guide to South West France: Dordogne, Lot and Bordeaux*, by Dana Facaros and Michael Pauls (Cadogan, £12.99, ISBN 0 947 75470 9).
- ■ The French Tourist Board, 0891 244123.

Truffles: the welcome harvest of a day's hunting

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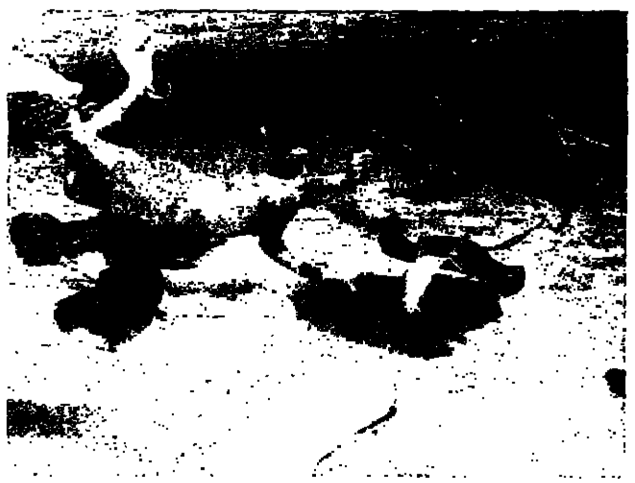

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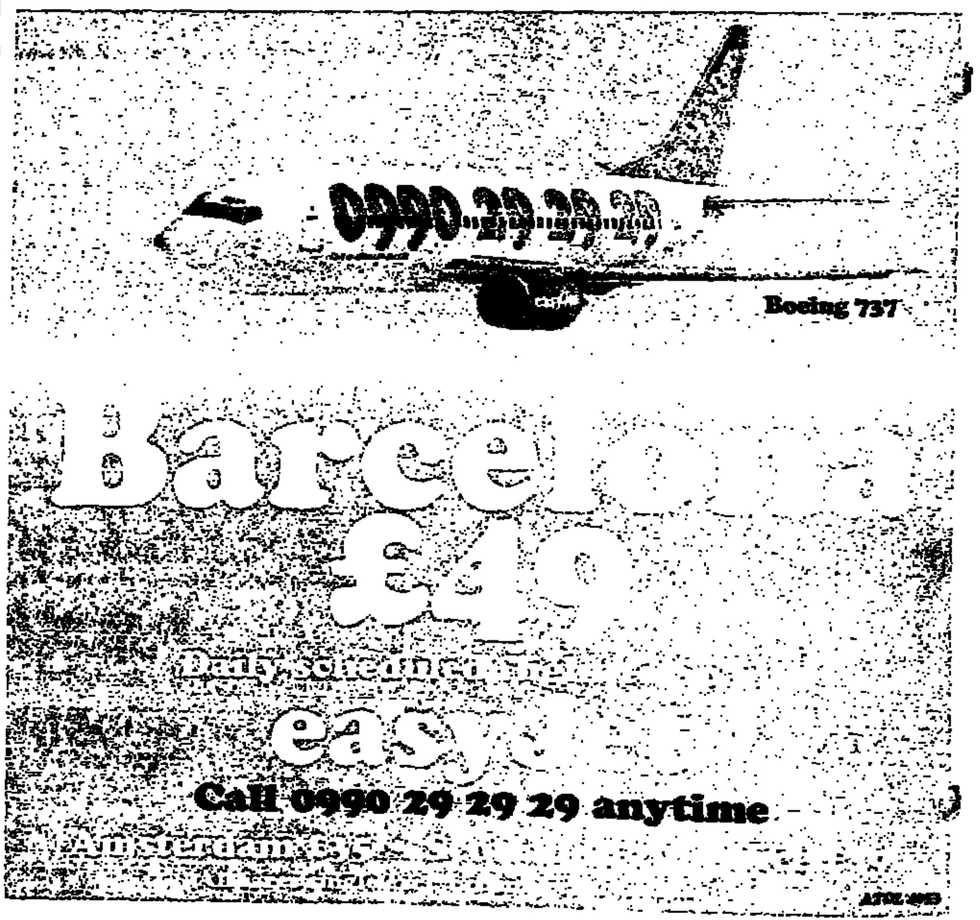

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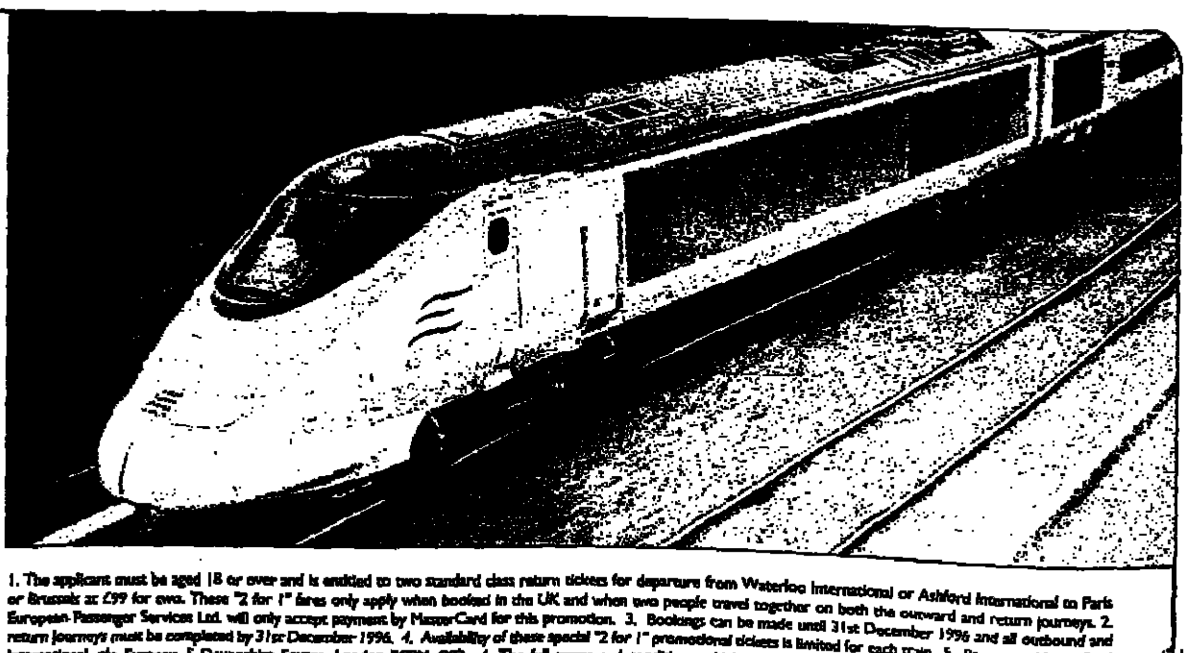

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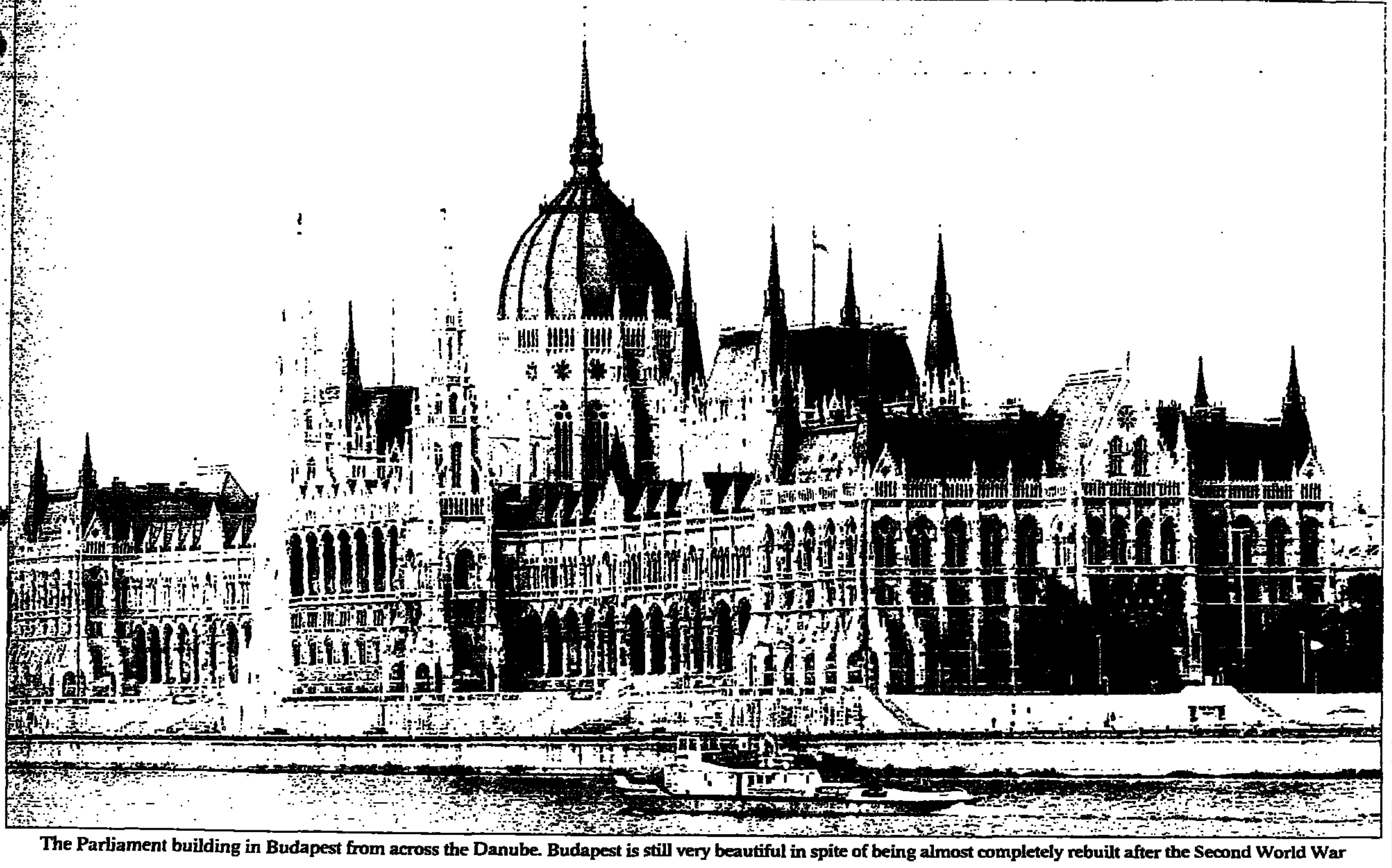
City breaks: The Baroque beauty of eastern European capitals and an artist's house in Paris; plus travel tips



TONY STONE

The Parliament building in Budapest from across the Danube. Budapest is still very beautiful in spite of being almost completely rebuilt after the Second World War

Why Budapest is clearly the best

Each autumn in the past three years I have spent some time in one or other of that great trio of "lost" European cities recently restored to us by the vagaries of history — Warsaw, Budapest and Prague. But which of these, I wonder, as I sit with the brochures, will be the one to start with on a second round of visits?

Considering the matter north to south, first on the list comes Warsaw, capital of Poland, sad city of the slow-flowing Vistula, symbol of genocide and obliteration in the Second World War but reborn phoenix-like even under its communist regime, with a massive and successful reconstruction of the historic inner city.

During my first days there I was taken up with the horrors of the Second World War, believing, as I still do, that this was the major message that should be received — that one should see the place where the ghetto stood and into which 400,000 Jews were crammed, to be taken away trainload by trainload, until the survivors rose in a desperate rebellion in 1943 and the ghetto was smashed to rubble.

In 1945, the general populace revolted against the Germans, who set about the destruction of the remainder of the city and its people while the Russian army waited on the far bank of the Vistula, letting the flames burn high.

You can see a dreadful lot of this in Warsaw, from a film show in the city's Historical Museum, through the side-gallery of the Museum of the Polish armed forces and on to the mound within the former ghetto where the young leaders of the Jewish rising committed suicide when their cause was lost.

But what I noticed, inescapably, as I moved among the fabulously curious (and colourfully reconstructed) merchants' houses of the main square, and down the shopping streets, and out into the suburbs with their fearsome concrete housing and busy markets, is that there is a remarkably lively spirit among the people of Warsaw.

They, after all, have entered a new future and look ahead, rather than backwards. Chatty, lyrical, even, sometimes, laughing, the Poles I met seemed, with a couple of slithery exceptions, thoroughly good sorts.

So modern life is the vein I hope to tap, if I should be so lucky, next time I go to Warsaw — along with a few good restaurants and a concert or two, this being the city of Frederic Chopin. I went to a Chopin evening on my last visit, in a palace in a park, with a glass of champagne during the interval. Exceedingly agreeable. As for Prague, capital of the Czech Republic, recently shorn of Slovakia, most people must know that this — despite a lack of reliable statistics — is almost certainly the most visited city of its size in Europe, outranking even Florence and Venice. So you are sure to meet competition for that café table and sure, also, to meet some difficulties with the city's totally crooked taxi drivers, not to mention sundry others assembled here to fleece the eager millions of visitors.

In other words, be careful of your purse. But goodness, it is beautiful and the only city of the trio to have survived the war intact. It is now a virtual film set of the baroque, as many contemporary directors have discovered. Clear away a few street signs and you have a medieval to 18th-century city, gorgeously handsome. Plenty of music, too, in plenty of venues and lots of sophisticated folk to hear it.

I'd go back to Prague for the architecture — but also, maybe oddly, for the city's atmosphere of buzz and hustle. The Charles Bridge, bedecked with grime and religious statuary, attracts a ceaseless flow of visitors, with jazz groups, violinists and mime artists all vying for their attention. Many young foreigners, mostly Americans, have taken up residence, as if in an attempt to reinvoke the Paris Left Bank of the 1920s. Most visitors stick resolutely to the centre but the city is just as lovely for what seems like miles in every direction. The city I love most of all among the three, however, is Budapest. It is not stark like Warsaw, nor so floridly good-looking as Prague, but it is beautiful in its own right and has an amazing west-bank/east-bank contrast.

On the north-western side stands Buda, high on its hill. On the east bank, flat as a rug, is Pest, the land stretching beyond it far as you can see from the highest eminence of Buda, out and away towards Russia. It is clearly, physically as well as historically, one of those key spots where East meets West, with Capital Letters both, and in the most dramatic terms.

Then there is the fact that Buda, with its narrow, cobbled lanes, its Habsburg palace, its spires and arches, is a medieval and neo-classical crossbreed — though, like Warsaw, rebuilt (extremely well) after almost total devastation in the Second World War. Pest, by contrast, is an Art Nouveau and mostly Art Deco city, little touched by the last desperate battle of 1945, with wide boulevards, and sophisticated shops and flower stalls by the hundred — a fitting tribute to Hungary's enchanting womenfolk.

The lads are pretty nice as well. In fact, to my mind, Budapest is the most cultivated, snazzy, humorous and stylish of the old central European cities. Apart from the gipsy fiddlers in the tourist joints, and those ubiquitous, paralysing dumplings, I have a terrible weakness for eating out there — wild cherry soup, pickled cabbage and rich duck covered in dark gravy.

What better than a Sunday morning stroll in Buda, a trip along the river bank in Pest (the No2 tram is tops for this — catch it at the Liberty Bridge, get off at Margaret Bridge), a quick look at the historic Habsburg picture collection in the Fine Arts museum, also in Pest, and just a little cherry soup to follow?

ADAM HOPKINS

WARSAW, BUDAPEST AND PRAGUE FACT FILE

■ A considerable number of companies do weekend breaks. Prices quoted are for October, based on scheduled flights, B&B with two sharing a room, and airport transfers.

■ British Airways Holidays (01293 723100) offers Prague from £389; Budapest from £395, Warsaw from £345; Cresta Holidays, 0161 927 7000. Prague, from £345, Budapest £324. Warsaw from £285; Time Off, (0171-235 8070) goes to Prague, from £336, and Budapest from £320. Travelscene (0181-427 4445) offers Prague from £319 and Budapest from £285.

■ Other companies serving Warsaw include: Polorbis, 0171-636 2217; Fregata, 0171-451 7000; Bogdan, 0181-992 8866.

■ For historic reasons, none of the three cities is overprovided with hotels; Prague has a shortage. One deserves a mention — the Bristol in Warsaw (UK reservations 01345 404040). Rooms from £150. In Budapest the Gellert Hotel is very fine (00 36 1185 2200), £143-£153 for a double room.

■ Currency. Poland, zloties, £1 equals 4.22ZL (new zloties). One new zloty equals 10,000 old zloties, which are also legal tender till end of year. Czech Republic, £1 equals 42 crowns. Hungary, £1 equals 230 to 240 forints. Avoid street money changers. Use banks for best rates.

■ Further information. Polish National tourist Office 0171-580 8811; Czech Centre infoline 0891 171 266; Hungarian Travel Centre 0181-871 4009 or 0171-494 2252

■ Further reading: *Poland*, (Lonely Planet, £11.99); *Prague* (Baedeker, £7.99) and *Prague* (Eyewitness, £12.99); *Hungary* (Rough Guides, £8.99).

Enjoying a brush with fame

The French call them "musées sentimentaux": collections in the homes of artists and writers which are fascinating as much for the sense of place as the work itself. Previously, this column has discussed the Musée Jacquemart-André, the Musée Delacroix, and Victor Hugo's house, all of which give the visitor a curious feeling of trespassing on someone else's property.

For visitors coming to Paris for the second or third time, such tasty little obscurities contrast with the large, sometimes unpalatable, spread offered by the grand museums. One pleasingly weird discovery is the Musée Gustave Moreau, in the symbolist painter's own house in the 9th arrondissement, a short walk north of Boulevard Haussmann and a convenient antidote to the department stores.

INSIDER'S GUIDE TO

PARIS

As Moreau grew old, he dreaded that his works would be dispersed after his death, the whole diluted to insignificance. In the 1890s, he started planning a museum on two floors of his family's home on Rue de la Rochefoucauld. Fortunately, the house was not small, and now displays some 6,000 of his oils, watercolours and drawings.

The best Moreaus are in the symbolist section in the Musée d'Orsay, and *Oedipus and the Sphinx* is in the Metropolitan Museum in New York, but what remains covers every inch of wall space — with grand mythic, Biblical and literary scenes on operatic backgrounds. It is a feast of romantic kitsch, but even those who do not have the highest respect for Moreau's work will still appreciate the World-of-Interiors experience in the private apartments.

The house opened to the public in 1903, although the family apartments were not renovated until 1992. Everything remains intact, however, down to the opposing photographs of Moreau and his mother — of whom he was inordinately fond — and his braided uniform as a member of the Academy of Beaux-Arts. The cramped family apartments on the first floor give some idea of the claustrophobia of the Moreau family — Gustave never married, although he professed his adoration for his friend Alexandrine Dureux. The walls groan with photographs and prints, the light is muted, the china is covered in serpents and stuffed chairs sit in every corner. His deathbed, a grandiose, polished affair, lies in what was the salon.

It is easy to understand how such strange images boiled up in Moreau's imagination and burst out in his painting, given the closeted rooms where he spent his evenings and free time.

Upstairs, two enormous windowed studios display Moreau's works, some paintings 15ft high, others oddly unfinished. There are stools placed before rotating wooden stands, where literally thousands of framed sketches can be viewed. Moreau wanted to show as much as possible "so people understand the sum of work and efforts of the artist during his life". Up a spiral staircase is a second gallery, guards grudgingly unlock drawers and cupboards filled with small paintings on hinges, layer after layer, and wonderful watercolours which can easily be missed.

There are critics who say Moreau would have made a better writer than a painter, and certainly his literary and artistic styles were both theatrical — in some of the largest oils, the paint is applied with thick, rough brush strokes, or even a spatula, with vague figures scratched into the surface.

His style would not nowadays merit all this space but Moreau's wary eye on posterity has saved this shrine to the bizarre.

KATE MUIR

● *Musée Gustave Moreau, 14 Rue de la Rochefoucauld, 9th, 48 74 38 50, open Mon, Wed 11am-5pm, other days except Tues 10am-12.45 and 2pm to 5pm. Private apartments do not open until noon on Mon and Wed. Fr20.*

● *Picasso's Portraits, opens 18 Oct at the Grand Palais, Ave Winston Churchill, 8th, closed Tues.*

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 25.

HARMATTAN

(b) A dry parching land-wind, which blows during December, January and February, on the coast of Upper Guinea in Africa. It obscures the air with a red dust-fog. From *Haramata* its name in the Fanti or Tshi language of West Africa. Darwin, 1845: "During those months when the harmattan is known to raise clouds of dust high in the atmosphere."

JESS

(b) A short strap of leather, silk, or other material, fastened round each of the legs of a hawk used in falconry. Usually bearing on its free end a small ring or *varvel* to which the swivel of the leash is attached. From the Latin *iacere* to throw, *iactus* a cast. Tennyson, *Merlin*, 1874: "Their talk was all of training, terms of art,/ Diet and seeling, jesses, leash and lure."

HERONSEW

(a) A little or young heron. The suffix *-sew* comes from the French *-ceau*, and has come down as anything from *-shaw* to *-shew*. "The young Heronshowes are with some accounted a very dainty dish."

JACKMAN

(a) An attendant or retainer kept by a nobleman or landowner. Referred by Scott and writers after him to *Jack*. "The chiefs and landed proprietors retaining in their service what were called jackmen, from the jack, or doublet quilted with iron, which they wore as defensive armour."

JILL CRAWSHAW'S TRAVEL TIPS

Break time

WE'VE got it all wrong about the Swiss and their clocks, according to David Thompson, a horologist at the British Museum. Cuckoo clocks did not originate in Switzerland but from Germany's Black Forest, and in the 18th century the Swiss actually copied British watches.

Horological fact will be distinguished from heresy on an eight-day visit to Swiss collections with British Museum Traveller (0171-323 8895) next September, escorted by David Thompson, costing £1.295, half board.

Also in the programme is a longer 18-day trip (£2.250) in March 1997 to the "Desert Monasteries and Hermitages", visiting the remaining outposts of Christianity in Israel, Syria and Jordan, where the British Museum is sponsoring excavations.

Visits to the new Iranian Galleries in the Louvre in Paris (£595), tours to Georgia (£1.985) and Pre-Colombian Peru (£2.295) should appeal to those with a cultural bent.

Just capital

CITY centre apartments in Italy are on offer from Tuscany Now (0171-272 5469), even over Christmas. A top-floor flat in a 16th-century privately owned palazzo in Rome's Piazza Navona, for example, which can sleep four, costs £2,280 a week. A private house for four on Venice's Guidecca Canal costs £1,430 a week.

Fast mover

A WHISTLESTOP special offer of a five-night holiday in Peking from Kuoni Limited Editions (01306 740500) costs from £479-£549 until December 3 this year (with flight times of at least ten hours).

Room-only accommodation is at the Holiday Inn, and excursions to the Great Wall, Ming Tombs, Summer Palace and Forbidden City can be pre-purchased, for £58. The cost of an extra night's stay is £15-£25.

Wedding bliss

FREE weddings are on offer in some of the hotels in Caribbean Connections' (01244 341131) revamped all-inclusive holiday programme. They come with food, flowers, best man and maid-of-honour thrown in. In addition, you get a "live saxophonist" at Couples, where the holiday costs from £1.127-£1.790 for a week, only an unspecified "musician" at Sans Souci Lido (£1.428-£2.273), a free facial (bride only) at the Grand Lido (£1,428-£2,273), and a horse and carriage ride at Breeze, Runaway Bay (£1,202-£1.964), all in Jamaica. Cheapest of the all-inclusives is in Mango Bay in Barbados (£893-£1,447), but they charge from £405-£512 for their weddings.

Weather guide

"YOU should have been here last month" is the irritating palliative offered when faced with snow in Sicily, floods in Florida and monsoons in Malaysia. "What is the weather like?" is the most important holiday query after the cost, and this is answered in some detail for 205 countries from Afghanistan to Zimbabwe in *Weather to Travel* (Tomorrow's Guides, £6.99) by Maria Harding, from bookstores.

"Comfort ratings" are also assessed according to humidity, and ideal clothes suggested.

Worth knowing: Barbados has less rain than neighbouring St Lucia or Martinique, that there's more winter rainfall in the Lebanon than in London, and that the northern coasts of Australia are hit several times a year by tropical cyclones, otherwise known as Willie Willies.

Veggie break

WHETHER the Three Musketeers would have been impressed is questionable but Inntravel (01653 628862) is offering two-night vegetarian breaks at the elegant four-star Les Trois Mousquetaires near the market town of Aire-sur-la-Lys and 36 miles from Calais, costing from £173 each for two people, including the crossing from Dover, for passengers and car.

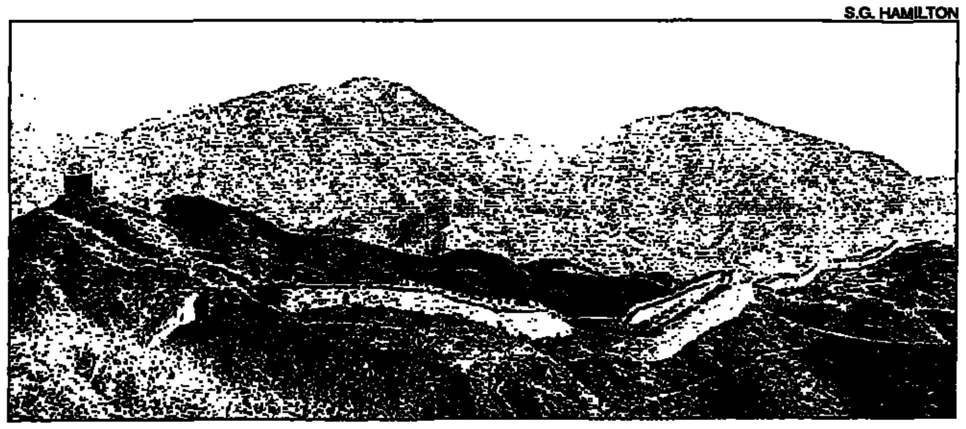
The owner, chef Phillippe Venet, doesn't impose vegetarianism on guests, but for each course, there are eight non-meat options.

Skiing coach

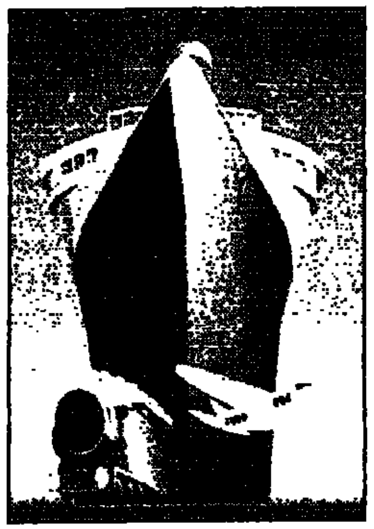
A RANGE of coach services to European ski areas, including Poland for the first time, is offered by Eurolines (0990 143219). A coach leaves Victoria Coach Station, London, at 2pm on Sundays, arriving in the Polish resorts at 9pm on Monday, after a change at Krakow. Return fares are £99 for those aged under 26, £109 for the rest.

There are coaches three days a week to Grenoble, Chambery, Annécy and Chamonix (£89 and £99), the same price as those to Zurich and Geneva. National Express offers connections to Victoria from towns all over Britain.

S.G. HAMILTON



Trips to the Great Wall, Ming Tombs and the Summer Palace are offered by Kuoni



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For seven departures only we shall be operating a special flight at an especially low tariff to the lovely city of Harare, with its fine museums housing the artefacts of David Livingstone. We have a small number of seats available over the period allowing us to make a special offer of six nights in the famous and 5-star deluxe Meikles Hotel.

Besides visiting the many sights in and around Harare there are a host of excursion possibilities to the nearby game reserves and the highland areas such as Leopard's Rock. Excursions can be booked in advance to the tourist areas of the famous Victoria Falls (by air) and the Bally Vaughn Game Park. Alternatively you may wish to hire a car and explore the country independently.

This is an unique opportunity to visit southern Africa at a fraction of the normal tariff. The price includes return flights from London Gatwick to Harare, transfers and six nights' accommodation. Flights are by non-stop, wide-bodied, scheduled seat configured Boeing 767 aircraft.

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Cruising: Expert advice from a celebrity wine taster, plus drinking in the stunning New Zealand scenery

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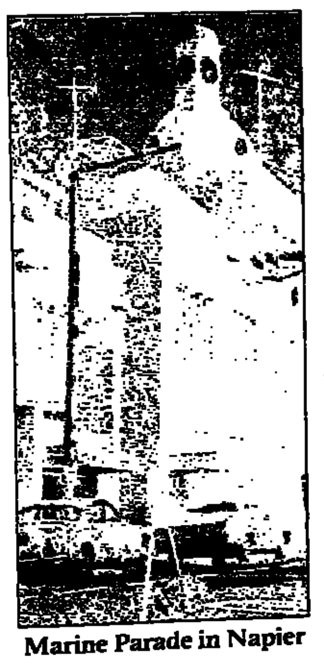
PICTURES



Marine Parade in Napier

One of the natural wonders of the world: Milford Sound, the 14 mile-long fiord dominated by the 5,000ft-high Mitre Peak. Despite helicopter trips for cruise passengers, it maintains a profound stillness

DALLAS/JOHN HEATON

"I am going to make your tastebuds sing," said Jilly Goolden, star of BBC2's *Food and Drink* programme. "If they don't, I will have failed."

At the time it seemed a tall order. We were aboard the cruise ship *Marco Polo*, riding waves up to 50ft high and heading into winds gusting up to 80 knots.

"Now swirl. Now really fill your nose up and get as much into it as you can. I want to see a really good sniff. Now make your mouth into a cherub."

Four hundred of us obediently swirled, sniffed and cherubbed. Some of the American passengers stiffened as Goolden went on to extol the aesthetic advantages of the fixed cherubic grin over the "dog's bum", the pursed lips commonly used by connoisseurs.

She sniffed a 1994 Montana Marlborough Riesling. "Do you smell alpine flowers? And just a hint of petrol, petrol spilt on the station forecourt. Delicious."

Australians would call Goolden a "beaut little bottler" — not a description of her knowledge of wine, but her gameness. A poor sailor, she pre-tasted all six wines and held the rocking stage until the tasting of the pudding wine, when she bolted for the ladies.

She was taking her own small party around the vineyards of New Zealand and Australia but she was also one of the celebrity lecturers who are a regular feature of the cruises.

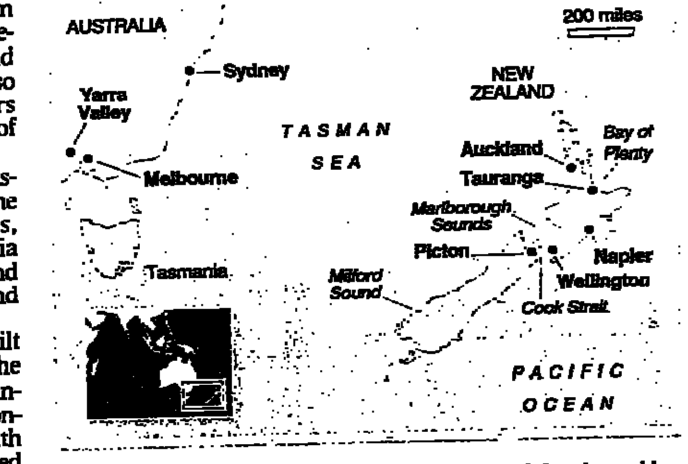
The *Marco Polo* was cruising between two of the world's great harbours, Auckland and Sydney, via four other New Zealand ports, three Tasmanian and Melbourne.

The sturdy German-built ship started life as the *Alexander Pushkin*. Her interior has been stylishly converted to a 1930s look, with widespread use of mirrored glass. The public rooms are elegant, particularly a small Art Deco-inspired bar off the casino. Cabins are comfortable rather than spectacular, with spacious bathrooms.

The European-style food is better than that available on some more expensive ships. At a typical dinner we could choose entrées from roast breast of turkey, lozenge of salmon, filet mignon and sauté of duckling, as well as a vegetarian menu.

Unusually for a cruise outside Europe, British passengers outnumbered the Americans. We were a mixed lot: surgeons and lawyers, teachers, small businessmen and the retired. Barbara, in early middle age, from Leicester, who was one of many passengers travelling alone, said: "I enjoy the friendliness of the ship. One advantage for me is that they charge only a 25 per cent premium for the sole use of a single cabin on the long-distance cruises."

Though Auckland's museum with its collection of Maori art cannot be missed, the star of the city is the view from Mount Eden. Houses stretch to the sea in a patchwork of red, green, brown and blue roofs, each on its own quarter-acre. Traffic streams to the North Shore over the "Nippon Clip-on" — so called because the Japanese were called in to add four extra lanes soon after it was built.



Is New Zealand the world's most houseproud nation? We travelled along dozens of roads — the guides in true Antipodean fashion telling us the house price in each — without seeing an untidy garden.

The four-star *Marco Polo* aims to provide cruises at reasonable prices to destinations off the main tourist itinerary. So we called at the Western Bay of Plenty, which houses the port of Tauranga, rather than the Bay of Islands. It has one of the finest climates in the country and the journey to Rotorua and its geysers passes through acres of orchards and forests.

Napier, too, is off the overseas tourist track. It deserves to be better known. Much of the town was destroyed in 1931 in an earthquake and fire and comprehensively rebuilt in a lively Art Deco style, which includes the marine parade, the sculptures and the municipal gardens.

Nervous cruise passengers in Wellington, our next port, should skip the Maritime Museum — where a model of the sinking of the *Titanic* sets the tone for an exhibition of disasters in the Cook Straits — and concentrate on Katherine Mansfield's house, an acute evocation of upper-middle-class New Zealand life at the turn of the century.

From the attractive small port of Picton, we sailed through two of the world's natural wonders: the islands, bays and coves of the Marlborough Sounds and Milford Sound, the beautiful 14 mile-long fiord dominated by the 5,000ft Mitre Peak.

Still water reflected sheer cliffs. More than 750 people were aboard a 20,502-ton ship. A sightseeing helicopter took off at regular intervals, but there was a majestic stillness.

The storm which greeted us when we left was definitely not part of the usual cruising experience. David Diamond, the magician, who explained his tricks among the huge seas, said: "In ten years at sea I have never seen anything like this." Two grand pianos were among the casualties. The heroes were the cheerful Filipino waiters, who weaved their way through the tables bearing trays stacked with ten covered dishes as crockery slid off the tables.

Only 4 per cent of foreign visitors reach Tasmania and we almost did not join them. The storm slowed us to five knots and Captain Erik Bjurstedt, who spent hours on the bridge, had time only to put into the small town of Devonport. This gave us a taste of a land of rolling countryside and square Georgian houses.

Melbourne, our guide told us, is famous for the three fs: fashion, finance and food. "And flies," added one passenger.

We tagged on to the Goolden party and tasted sauvignon blancs, chardonnays and cabernets at the Yering Station and Yarra Ridge wineries, overlooking the sweeping plains of the Yarra Valley. We sailed past the heads into Sydney as the sun rose behind the harbour bridge. Gradually the sails of the Opera House became distinct.

Even without being part of Goolden's expert group, the cruise had taught us a lot about — and, if possible, inspired a greater fondness for — Antipodean wines. And the taste buds? They were singing as if Dame Kiri Te Kanawa had teamed up with Dame Nellie Melba for the duet in *Cosi fan Tutte* as we stepped on to Circular Quay.

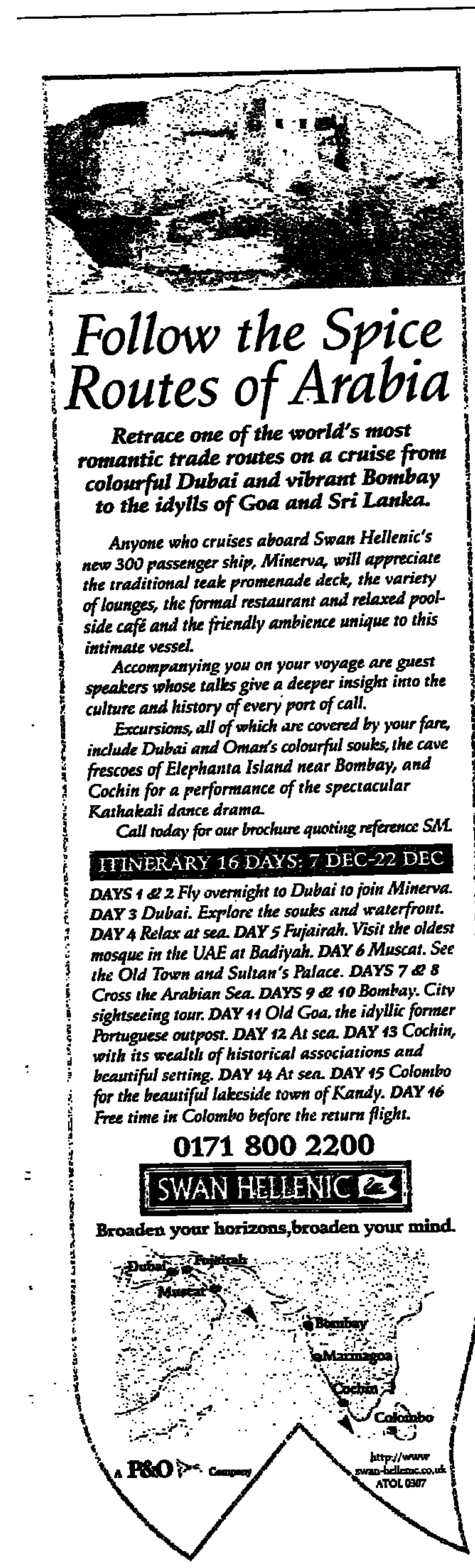
JOHN GRIGSBY

● *The author was the guest of Orient Lines and travelled to Auckland by Singapore Airlines.*

Stirling Falls, found on South Island, New Zealand

FACT FILE

- **Orient Lines (Europe), 38 Park Street, London W1Y 3PF (0171-409-2500). Singapore Airlines, 0181-747 0007.**
- **A waiting list is open for a 21-day cruise-tour of Australia, Tasmania and New Zealand departing from Britain on December 28. Prices from £2,695.**
- **Special offers on Far East cruises in 1997 include 15-day highlights of South East Asia, departing from Britain on March 25. Prices from £1,572 per person, including air fares and accommodation.**
- **Reading: the Travel Bookshop, 13 Blenheim Crescent, London W11, suggests *The Fatal Shore*, by Robert Hughes (Pan, £11.99, ISBN 0 330 29892 5); *The Collected Stories*, by Katherine Mansfield, (Constable, £7.50, ISBN 0 094 51240 X); and Insight Guides' *Australia* (£13.99, ISBN 9 624 21024 1), and *New Zealand* (£12.99, ISBN 9 624 21212 0).**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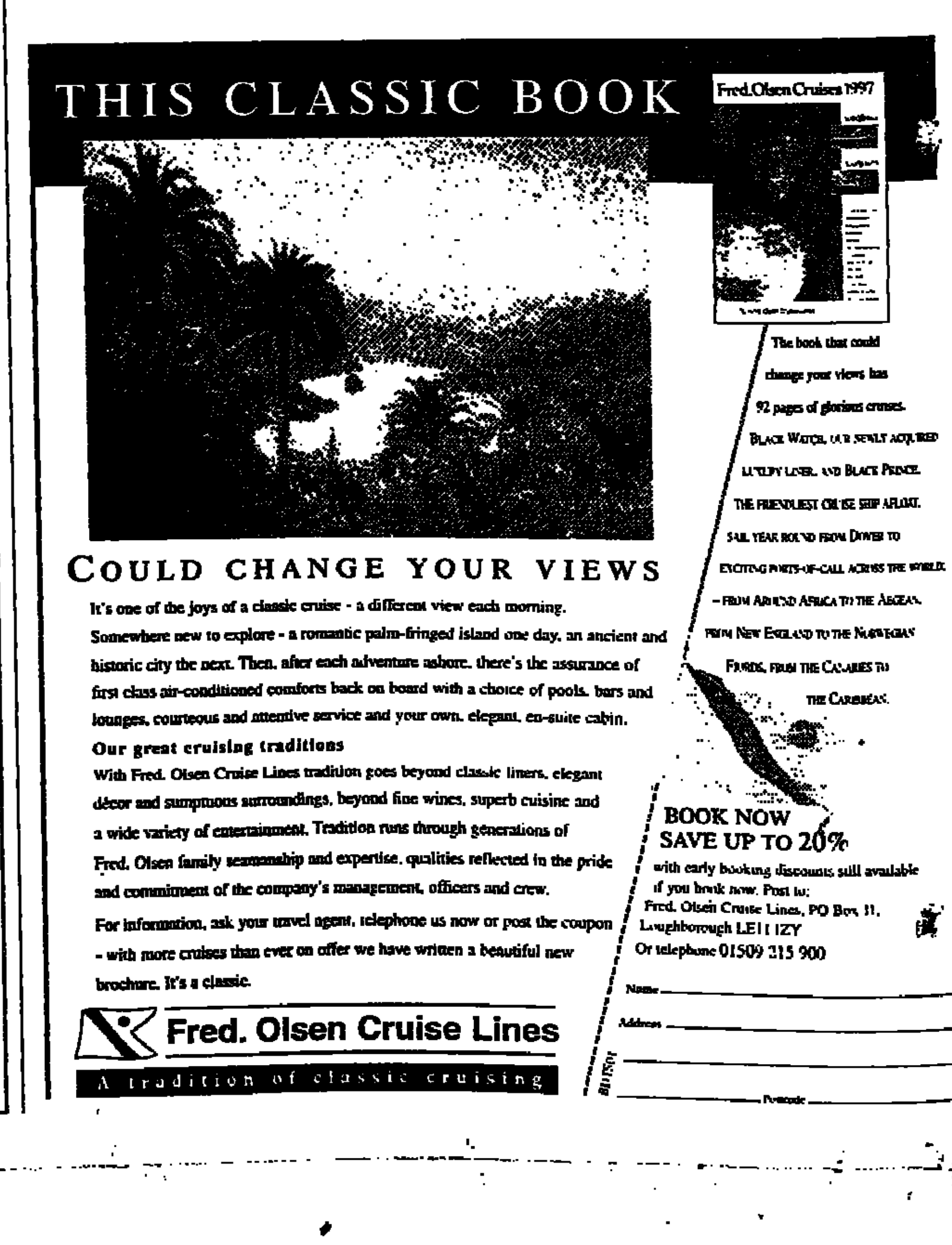
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Britain: Bath, Edinburgh and Lincoln offer rich — and varying — rewards to visitors on a weekend break

The elegance that's not just a façade

"OH, WHO CAN ever grow tired of Bath?" cried Catherine, the enraptured heroine of Jane Austen's *Northanger Abbey*. After 1702, when Queen Anne first visited the dozy little West Country spa, the whole of fashionable society fluttered in her wake. Gradually the squares and circuses, crescents and colonnades of an elegant Georgian city grew up. By Jane Austen's era the honey-coloured limestone of its Palladian landscape formed the backdrop against which all the civilities and compliments of genteel life were exchanged between October and February every year.

The flavour of an Austenesque age still lingers in Bath — though *not most pleasantly* in a glass of the waters which taste, it has been said, "like warm flat irons". But the handsome chambers of the Grand Pump Room remain and the chandeliered Assembly Rooms where society used to meet daily to gamble and gossip.

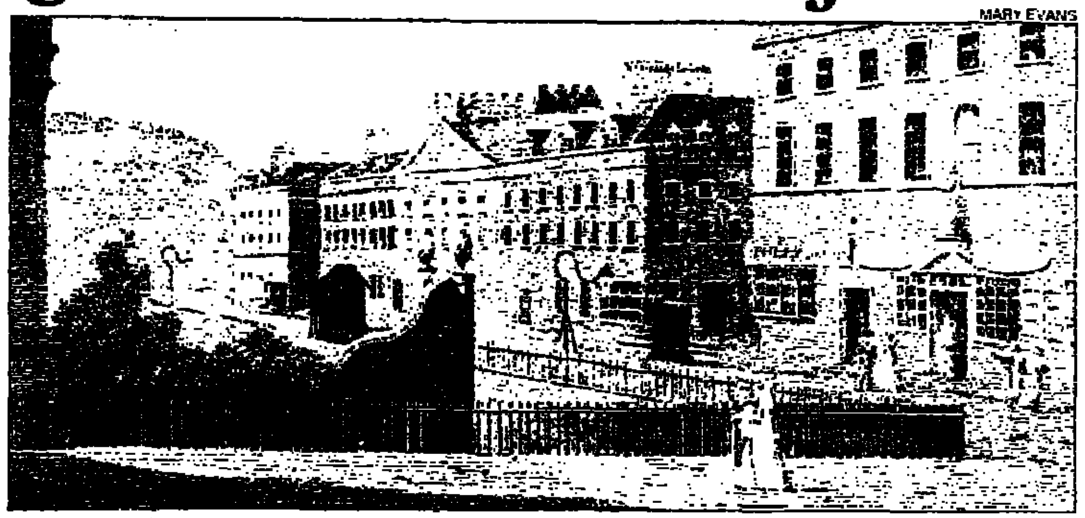
Ponies and traps, though in a rather different mould to the smart phaetons which once trotted briskly down Great Pulteney Street, still trundle tourists round a city centre much of which, closed to traffic, is opened to a gallimaufry of street entertainers.

But in the absence of sedan chairs, for which the wide pavements and broad doorways of Bath are especially designed, the best way to see the city is on foot. It can be comfortably perambulated in a day.

Historically a tour should begin at the Roman baths, built almost 2,000 years ago when the marshes around the River Avon were first drained and their thermal springs channelled into a warm pool in which to relax. Bath Abbey, with its fan vaulting and the flaring clerestory windows which earned it the nickname of "the lantern of the West", stands nearby. The first stone of the cathedral was laid in 1499 when Bath was still a sleepy provincial town, visited only by the colicky and the crippled, but for the most part medieval architecture has been swept aside by the classical façades of the 17th and 18th centuries.

Pedestrians can stroll the broad streets, march up to the top of the Grand Old Duke of York's original hill and wander round the sweep of the Royal Crescent. No 1 is preserved in period style — authentic even to the freshly whipped syllabub on the kitchen table. On the way down towards the city centre there is a Georgian garden with clipped box borders and topiaried yews. It is worth a visit before meandering back, via Queen Square where Austen once resided, to the Pump Room where traditional teas are served to the accompaniment of the Pump Room Trio, the oldest resident ensemble in England.

MARY EVANS



Grace and favour, 1803: North Parade displays the Palladian architecture of Jane Austen's time

To stay at Lucknam Park, seven miles from Bath, is to continue to bask in an 18th-century style of life. A country house hotel, built in 1720 and set in a 500-acre parkland, it is an ideal place from which to explore Wiltshire's quintessentially English countryside.

Lucknam's equestrian centre can provide elegant mounts and from the vantage point of the saddle the rider can gaze over hedgerows to enjoy views that stretch from the Mendips to the White Horse Hills, or peep over garden walls into pocket-handkerchief-sized cottage gardens.

In summer the green tunnelled lanes, with their high banks frothing with cow parsley, the buttercupped meadows and the beechwoods dusky with bluebells are equally well explored on foot. Within walking distance is Castle Combe, reputedly the prettiest village in England, with its grey limestone cottages with mullioned windows and gabled roofs.

From time to time the village is mobbed by fevered film crews scrabbling for the air of Austenesque authenticity. But on a quiet evening, the old White Hart Inn opposite the ancient market cross is a perfect place to pause for a while and breathe in the atmosphere of a more tranquil rural age.

RACHEL CAMPBELL-JOHNSTON

- *The author was a guest of Lucknam Park.*

BATH FILE

- **Lucknam Park, Colerne, Wiltshire SN14 8AZ (01225 742777). Singles from £120, doubles from £170.**
- **Other places to stay: At the Sign of the Angel, Lacock (01249 730230). Single from £50, double £70. Weekend and midweek breaks from £50 with dinner, bed and breakfast. Priory Steps, Bradford-on-Avon (01225 862230) from £40 single, £70 double. Set dinner £16.**
- **Places to visit from Bath: Sheldon Manor (three miles away): Wiltshire's oldest manor house, lived in since 1282. Open *from Easter* (01249 653120). Corsham Court (six miles): Elizabethan house with picture gallery and superb gardens. Open all year (01249 701610).**
- **Places to visit from Lucknam Park: Bowood House (seven miles), 18th-century architecture with a park laid out by Capability Brown. Open until Nov 3 (01249 812102). Lacock (eight miles), National Trust village of timbered 16th-century cottages and ancient abbey. Open until Nov 3, then from March.**
- **See also box below.**

Affecting views and sound effects

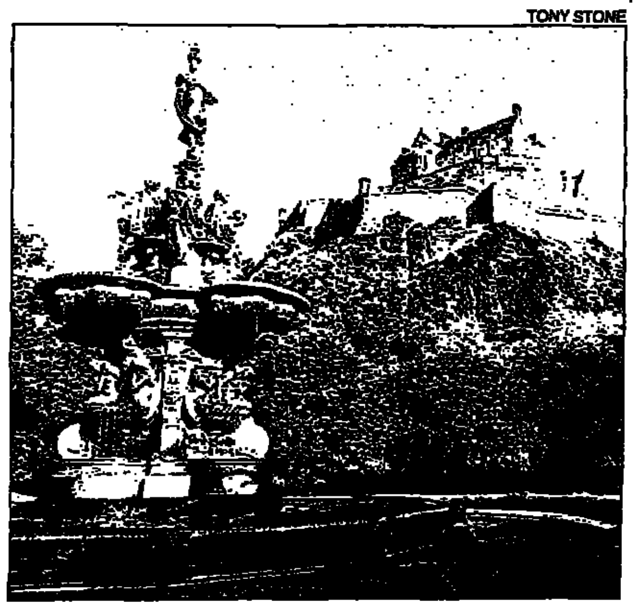
Halfway to Edinburgh on the Intercity train, a Scotswoman sitting across the aisle inquired if this was our first visit. Yes, it was. "Ah well, hen, you're in for a treat then," came the confident reply. And so it proved.

If you live in the Home Counties and your natural inclination is always to head south rather than north, you really need an incentive to go to Edinburgh. Ours was the offer of a university place for my daughter with an invitation to the English department's open day. Thus spurred, we treated ourselves to two foot-slogging days of sightseeing from our comfortable base at the Calverley Hotel on Princes Street.

The first trick for novices is to realise that the High Street and the Royal Mile are, for the most part, one and the same and both names are used — one street map did not have the words Royal Mile on it at all, occasioning some head-scratching. The second is to appreciate that the terrain is hilly and mostly cobbled — not for the infirm or ill-shod.

The rewards for our labours were, however, literally breathtaking. With unseasonal blue skies and sunshine over our heads, we strolled down Princes Street in the lee of the mighty volcanic crag which carries the castle on its crest, across the crocus-filled gardens and up to the Royal Mile. Friends had recommended the Camera Obscura on Castlehill as an unmissable attraction; this turned out to be a wonderful low-technology delight, completely baffling the Japanese students who mounted the stairs with us to see it. Across the way the Scotch Whisky Heritage Centre beckoned with the promise of a wee dram, but so did the castle with the promise of rich history, and I can always have a wee dram at home, I figured.

TONY STONE



Edinburgh Castle, perched on top of a volcanic crag

The castle offers the thrill of your own portable guide on a state-of-the-art personal CD player, complete with terrific sound effects ("You are now entering the old dungeon" CLANG! MOAN! GROAN!), and stunning views — on a clear day — across the Georgian "new town" to the ships in the Firth of Forth and the hills of Fife beyond.

On our first evening we joined one of the "witches and cadies" after-dark tours, led by "Adam Lyal, Deceased" — a young man with a white-painted face in a moth-eaten Dracula cape, who led us at high speed up dark alleys and down steep steps, pausing to point out the site of a hanging or the body-snatching activities of Burke and Hare. His partner in crime was an out-of-work actor who popped up in a variety of thin disguises — peg-leg pirate, fishwife with bucket of slops, mad Scooby-Doo-soundalike monk — at strategic points to scare us to death, or not. One Canadian couple obligingly screamed every time, and were rendered helpless with mirth by Adam's little jokes, which tells us something about Canadian entertainment.

Next day we took an open-topped bus tour of the city, with plenty of opportunity for jumping off and on again at the main tourist sites such as the castle, the Palace of Holyroodhouse, the Scott Monument, Greyfriars Bobby and St Giles's Cathedral in the High Street, whose otherwise undistinguished interior conceals in its furthest corner an absolute gem in the tiny Thistle Chapel, home to the 16 knights of the Order of the Thistle.

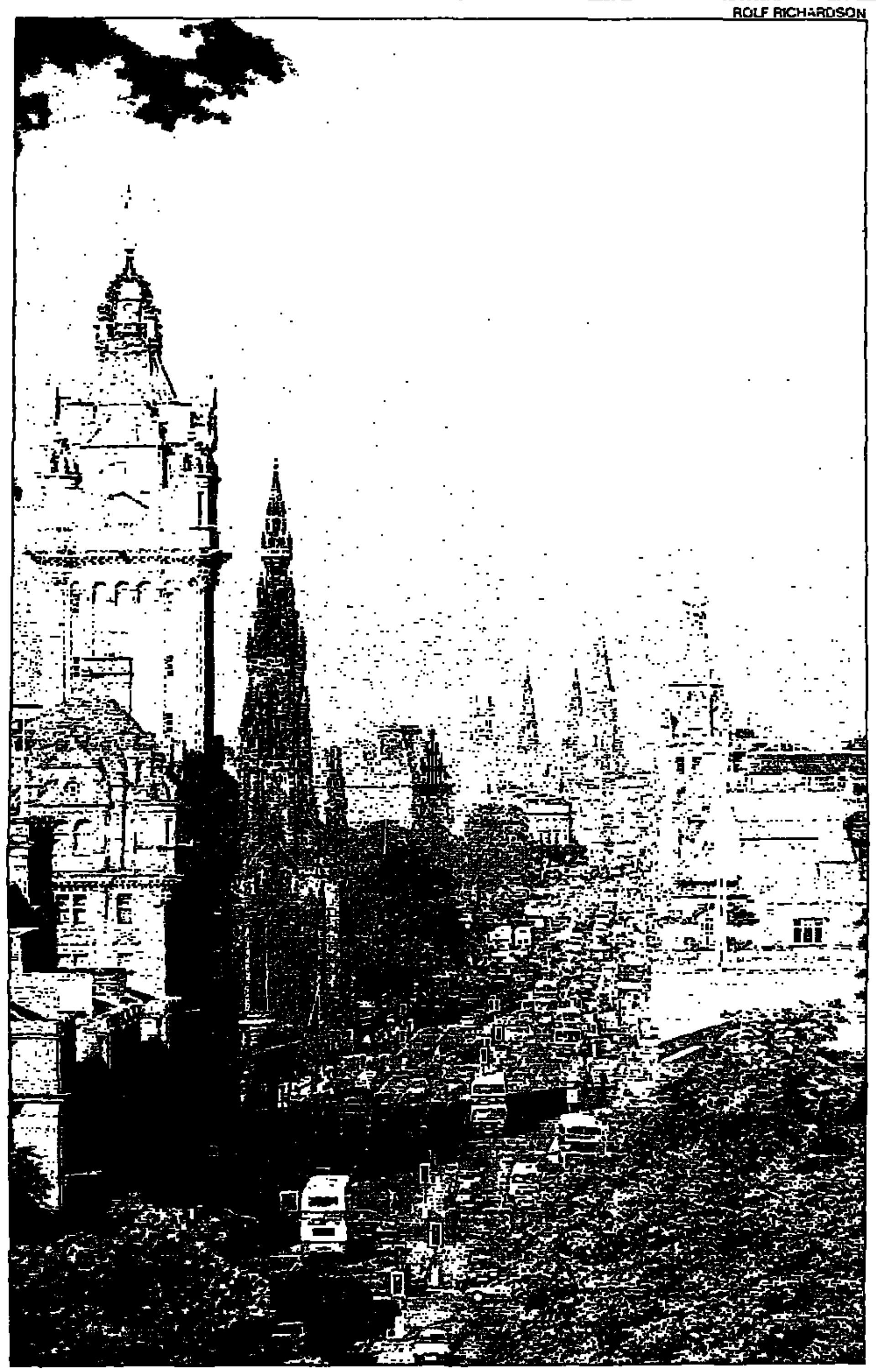
Eating and drinking pose no problems for visitors. The Royal Mile and streets off it seem to have as many pubs as cashmere and tartan shops, and the usual fast-food suspects are everywhere. Pizza seems to be an Edinburgh favourite — we counted at least four branches of Pizzaland — but since my daughter had a brief and undistinguished career as a Saturday waitress in our local branch in Kent, this was too much like home. Nor did we feel tempted by Prince Charlie's Scottish Extravaganza, "a memorable four-course banquet with singing, piping, dancing and music".

So we took pot-luck for dinner at two places featured on the tourist board's excellent city map, and were 50 per cent successful — Jackson's in a basement on the Royal Mile had poor service and a faint smell of disinfectant, but The Witchery on Castlehill was a real treat, with delicious food in eccentric surroundings that brought Miss Havisham to mind — the candelabra alone are worth the visit. The prices are definitely not in the undergraduate bracket, so I trust the daughter made the most of every mouthful.

SALLY BAKER

- *The author was a guest of Highlife Breaks.*

ROLF RICHARDSON



Taking the high road: Princes Street, which every traveller to Edinburgh will visit

EDINBURGH FILE

- **Highlife Breaks, PO Box 139, Leeds LS2 7TE (freephone 0800 700400), offers inclusive holidays throughout the UK by air, rail or coach. It has a choice of three, four or five-star hotels in Edinburgh. The cost per person for standard return rail travel from southeast England plus one night's B&B starts at £94 off-peak in a three-star hotel. An extra night costs £38.**
- **The Castle (0131-225 1012) is open every day from 9.30am, last entry 5.15pm (4.15pm Oct 1-March 31). Closed Christmas Day, Boxing Day, and January 1 and 2. *Adults* £5.50, children (5-15) £1.50. Try to time your visit for lunchtime to catch the firing of the One O'Clock Gun (every day except Sunday) from Mills Mount Battery — not for those of a nervous disposition.**
- **The Witchery Tour takes place every evening (0131-225 6745, advance booking essential). It costs £5, lasts an hour and a quarter and meets outside The Witchery.**
- **Camera Obscura (0131-226 3709), open every day except December 25, 9.30am-6pm April-October, 10am-5pm November-March. Last admission is 45 minutes before closing. Presentations take place at the top of the tower usually on the hour and every 15 minutes thereafter. Adults £3.40, children £1.75.**
- **See also City Breaks box, right.**

CITY BREAKS

Edinburgh

- Air UK (0345 666777) has flights from Stansted and London City to Edinburgh for £58 return with discounts at Stakis and Hilton hotels.
- GoldenRail (01904 638973) offers a return trip from King's Cross to Edinburgh, with B&B at the Sheraton Grand for £132.
- Channings Hotel, Edinburgh, charges £112.50 a person for three nights' weekend B&B. Details from Rainbow Holidays (01904 643355).
- Friday and Saturday night at the Chalumna Hotel, Edinburgh, (0131-229 2086) with an evening at the theatre costs from £69 per person.

Bath

- The Royal Hotel offers three nights with dinner, B&B for £92.50 per person from Friday night until Monday morning through Rainbow Holidays (01904 643355).
- Somerset House (01225 466451) is staging a Georgian weekend from November 1 to 3 for £126.50 per person, including a guided tour.
- The Royal Crescent Hotel (01225 739955) offers a dinner, bed and breakfast weekend rate of £230 for a couple sharing a standard twin or double room.

Lincoln

- Guests can stay at Courtyard by Marriott (01522 544244) for £24 a night on Friday, Saturday and Sundays evenings from November 1.

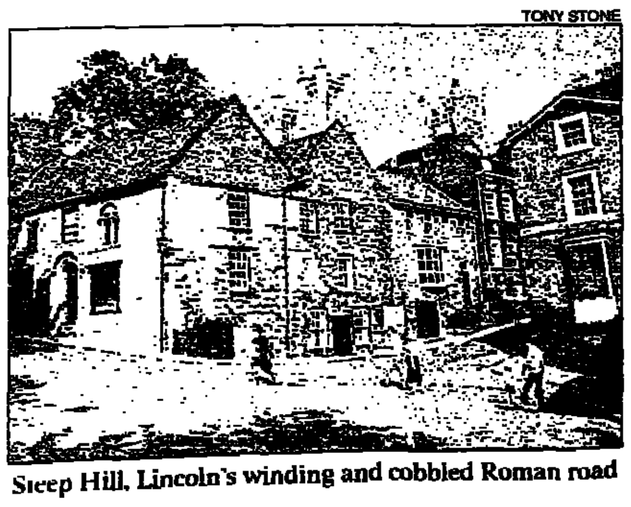
Where even the Imp finds sanctuary

During a brief stopover in an August heatwave the exotic Romanesque-Gothic cathedral in Lincoln — possibly the most precious piece of architecture in Britain, John Ruskin declared — had proved a cool and heavenly sanctuary but left us with little time to explore the rest of this 2,000-year-old city.

Going back is a dangerous thing to do, but we were not disappointed. *Lincoln makes* a cosy, compact haven for a winter weekend. We holed up in the Castle Hotel at the top of the town and found we were within walking distance of everything we wanted to see.

On our first visit we had stayed in the Bishop's Old Palace part of which, Edward King House, is a retreat centre where visitors can sign in for B&B, vacancies permitting. It seems [illegible] be a well-kept secret as when we stayed there, there were only two other guests. Accommodation is basic but clean and peaceful.

TONY STONE



Steep Hill, Lincoln's winding and cobbled Roman road

Lincoln is really two towns in one, linked by the Steep Hill a zig-zagged and cobbled Roman route from the River Witham, with its shopping centre and the University of Humberside complex, up to the more tourist-conscious peak where sits an array of architectural delights, especially around the square called Castle Hill.

It is hard to fault Lincoln as a venue for a short break but eating out in the evening proved to be problematical: few restaurants stay open past 9pm. One evening, after a concert, the excellent and lively Tequila's (Mexican) came to the rescue. The city abounds in tea shops, however. My favourite was Pimento, a courtyard café tucked behind a boutique and a speciality tea shop on Steep Hill.

It was time for some serious sightseeing in the company of Herbert Sharman, a Lincoln born-and-bred city guide. "People think they can do Lincoln in a day before moving on to York or Durham, so we don't get many staying here," he complained, more out of frustration than bitterness. As chairman of the Civic Trust he knows better than anyone what casual visitors are missing.

Mr Sharman walked us along the castle walls (Lincoln Castle is home to one of our four surviving Magna Cartas) and enlarged our knowledge of the cathedral, where 20p in the slot shines a light on the notorious Imp, perched high in the Angel Choir, and children can go "on safari" seeking animals hiding in the wealth of carvings. Down by the river he pointed out the Glory Hole, the only surviving medieval bridge in England.

The city museum is being relocated and will not reopen until next year, but Mr Sharman pointed us towards the Museum of Lincolnshire Life, full of surprises. Also worth a visit are the Usher Gallery (Peter de Wint watercolours and a Tennyson room) and the Lawn, a former asylum which houses the National Cycle Museum, an Archaeology Centre, and the Sir Joseph Banks Conservatory. And I defy anyone to "just pop in" to The Incredibly Fantastic Old Toy Show or Reader's Rest, the county's largest second-hand bookshop with a stock of 60,000 volumes.

Having seen Lincoln in extremes of weather, I have *to admit one preference for* summer. Just before sunset, you can watch "warm gules" from the cathedral's stained glass being thrown on to the exquisitely carved St Hugh's *Choir. It is a divine* experience.

JENNY MCCLEAN

LINCOLN FILE

- **Tourist Information (01522 529828).**
- **The Castle Hotel, Westgate (01522 538801). B&B £32.50 per person. Heritage Breaks for £41 per person per night, includes dinner, B&B and extras. Edward King House at The Bishop's Old *Palace*(01522 528778). B&B £20.**
- **See box, above right.**

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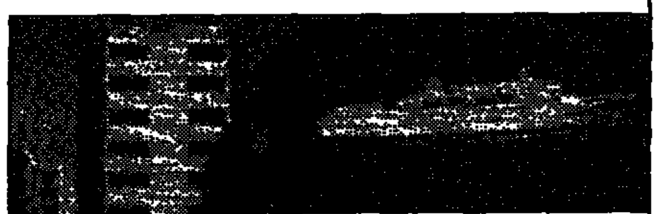

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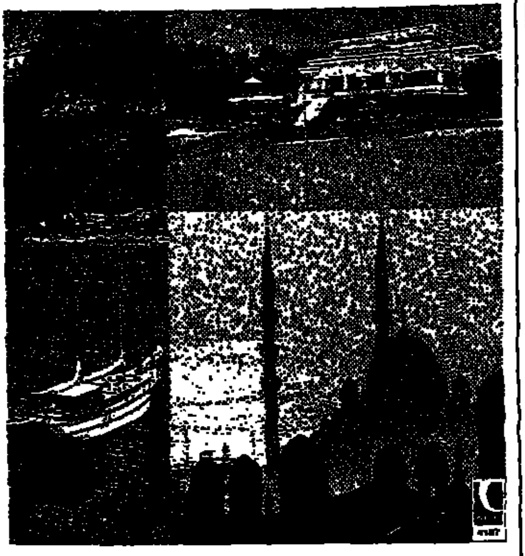

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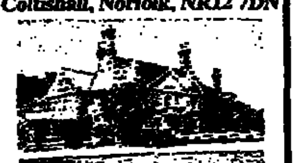

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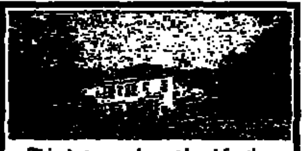

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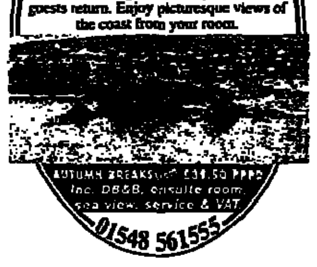

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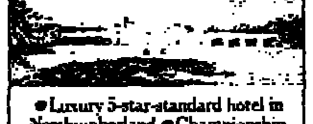

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ANOTHER grey British winter & a dark house at night to come home to, another Christmas on my own - I can't bear it! I'm still waiting for you. Not the most patient (& occasionally even stroppy), I am, however, amusing, warm, eclectic, earthy, cultured & creative. I need you to be very fit (I'm very quick & energetic), slim, articulate, tactile, successful & hopefully charismatic. If you'd enjoy a interesting woman (slim, petite, brown eyed blonde) who needs a strong arm around her at times, perhaps we'll spend Christmas together in London or in my house in France? Please Reply to Box No 9565

ARE you charismatic and chivalrous? Are you a professional gentleman 47-57? Are you fun and appreciative of quality? If so, glamorous active Surrey widow would like to hear from you. Photo please Box No 9525

BEAUTEOUS tall, slim, late 30's woman needs caring man 40-50. You are genuine, passionate, romantic, good company, enjoy food/wine/arts and seeks lasting relationship. London/SE. Photo please. Box No 9557

BLASÉ, nonchalant, slim, attractive lady seeks cultured likeminded gentleman 55-65 prepared to fall in love. Yorkshire/anywhere. Box 9510

BLONDE bombshells (2) & a sultry brunette 30'somethings sporty, funloving, independent & intelligent professionals seek 3 attractive male counterparts 30-40 for friendship, laughs & maybe more. London/Southeast. Photos please. Reply to Box No 9409

SATURDAY RENDEZVOUS

ASSIGNATIONS
Lesley Hudson-Jessop
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01225 482905

BLOOMING 50 yr old widow, Francophile with a penchant for tennis, skiing, opera, fine wining/dining, seeks male companion to share similar interests, N/S. London area. Photo appreciated. Box No 9467

BOURNEMOUTH/Dorset 100's of super gentlemen waiting for you. Call Elite Introductions 01202 891500 7 days

BRISTOL, Bath, Exeter Truro Ring Caroline Crowther the Caring and Personal Agency to find an intelligent interesting partner. Call me on 01179 735877

CANCERIAN lady 58 seeks educated retired gentleman with time to share the simple & good things in life. Bedford. Please Reply to Box No 9485

BRIGHT, attractive female 5'7", early 40's, 2 children, London/Surrey, seeks similar male, successful, caring, tall and genuine for lasting relationship. Please Reply with photo/tel. no. to Box No 9536

BUBBLY, slim, petite, 35 year old blue eyed brunette, WLTM sporty, good looking, professional man 28-38 in the London/Home Counties area. Photo please to Box No 9218

BUSINESS soaring! social life boring! Attractive, tall lady with zest for life WLTM tall, self aware, prof, with GSOH, n/s, 30-45 Reply with photo Please Reply to Box No 9471

CARDIFF, Glos, Swindon. Ring Caroline Crowther the Caring and Personal Agency to find an intelligent interesting partner. Call me on 01179 735877

CHICHESTER/Portsmouth. 25m radius. 100's of lovely ladies wanting to meet you. Elite Introductions telephone now 01730 895278

CLASSIC good looks, cosmopolitan, stylish, well travelled French widow with lovely country home in W. Sussex, traditional values seeks educated, sophisticated gentleman 57 + with style & panache to bring back the pleasures of wining, dining & perhaps romance. Photo appreciated. Box 9273

COUNTRY loving lady, 55, dog owner, many interests, home decorating, walking, art, theatre, eating out, WLTM down to earth, solvent gentleman 50+ with GSOH to explore the good things of life. N. Bucks. Please Reply to Box No 9303

CUDDLY and curvaceous, witty, warm and sometimes wicked, 30'something female graduate seeks similar 40'something. Photo please to Box No 9507

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LONDON, E1 9GA

DEVON/Somerset. Let us find that special man. The professional Agency for professional people. Elite Introductions Free call local office 01458 210120

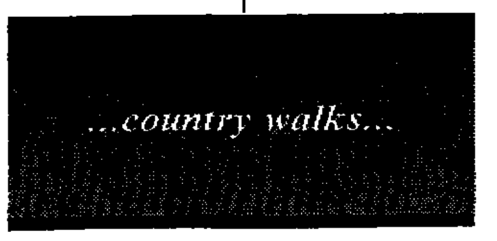
DIVORCED, attractive, young 49 yr old petite brunette. Professional, interested in art, literature, theatre, ballet WLTM intelligent, charming male under 55 yrs.Box No 9384

EXCEPTIONAL Opportunity: I am a blonde, petite adult rarity - sophisticated, yet homeloving, independent, kind and - normal! Great cook, adores gardens (design them as well), enjoys sports & culture (incl. opera), N/S, Are you 50-60, steadfast, able to laugh at yourself, flexible, etc- I'd like to love you for a long time. Hants based. Photo. Box 9422

FOOT loose and fancy free.. not screw loose and fancy fee - American in Paris, jewish, charmingly pretty, witty, intelligent, professional, seeks tender intelligent man 55-65 to cherish and be cherished. Please Reply to Box No 9424

EYECATCHING lady, 50, possess style charm and humour WLTM successful prof gentleman with a view to friendship? North West Reply Box 9555

FUN-LOVING, lovely, warm, affectionate, attractive, sincere, GSOH, good figure professional female 36 seeks tall male. Photo please. Box No 9539


...country walks...

GOOD-NATURED, gregarious, middle aged brunette (looks 10 years younger - don't we all). Own small business. Likes to go out and to stay in with good food and wine. Interests include homemaking, gardening, travel, jam and big band concerts and clubs, theatres - musicals and comedies. Reads age sagas and the like voraciously and watches grand slam tennis and football on the tele later alls. WLTM professional gentleman - mid fifties kind and equable - London based prof. to share twilight years in happy harmony. Beyond need not apply. Photo essential. Please reply to Box No 9417

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HERNE BAY, Kent, attractive widow, 60 yrs seeks old fashioned romantic N/S male to spoil & be spoilt. Enjoys travel, theatre, golf. Reply to Box No 9407

I AM an independent, attractive woman of 43 and I like lots of things about my life - but I think that there's room in it for romance with a like minded man. If that sounds like you, please write. Photo apprec. E. Mids area. Reply to Box 8545

IF you want to meet an interesting, energetic and attractive widow who enjoys life, has a gsoh, is solvent and a free agent, please get in touch. Very varied interests and willing to try something new. South east area preferred. Please reply with photo to Box No 9389

IF you are a gentleman 55-65 with a penchant for romance with a slim vivacious lady, please do get in touch. Yorks based. Photo to Box No 9315

INTELLIGENT, attractive professional woman, forties, divorced. London-based, seeks male partner for a loving relationship. Please Reply to Box No 9287

JEWISH brunette, attractive, single, slim, sporty, extrovert, seeks similar man 38-42 professional, adaptable, for serious relationship. London based. Photo please. Box 9564

INTERNATIONAL Beauty, former resident of London, Beirut, Venezuela. Currently residing Boston, USA - soon to be relocating to U.K. Sculptor, mother. Elegant, sophisticated, 5'7", very slim, long dark hair, green eyes. Adventurous, giving, passionate, feminine. Loves giving dinner parties (gourmet cook!), theatre, antiques, museums. Consumate city dweller but enjoys hiking and rugged deserted beaches. Seeks tall, attractive, internationally minded gentleman 40-55 yrs, who enjoys travel, friends, red wine, fireside dinners, romance and football! Comfortable in black tie or jeans. Please Reply with letter & photo to Box 9524

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LADY doctor, 40's, recently divorced WLTM successful, prof, but not medical honest man. Please Reply to Box No 9566

LADY graduate 32, very attractive, Yorkshire based seeks sincere, kind, affectionate, successful gentleman who enjoys travel, music, theatre and home life. Photo please Reply to Box No 9235

LATIN woman of substance, 28, UK University graduate, romantic, sensual WLTM a British man for marriage purposes. Anybody interested? Please reply to Box 3423, Correos Centro de Gobierno, San Salvador, El Salvador, Central America.

LEADING Lady, slim 46, of wit & imagination seeks inspiration of successful solvent prof man N/S, 50-60 as co-star in love & life. London/Herts/Cambs/Essex. Photo plse. Box 9475

LANCS, Mersey, Chesh. We can find you a new special partner Maggie: Elite 01695 625681

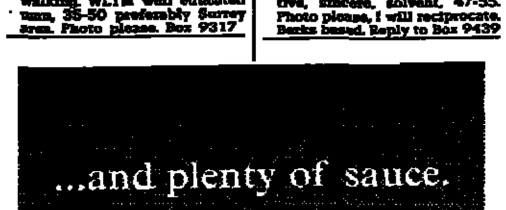
LEEDS, York, H'gte We have many super gentlemen Elite Intros Call Catharine 01937 587933

LET'S be honest - we don't need to meet each others' friends, step parent each others' children or negotiate holidays. We're both independent, 45+, cultured, successful; seeking wit, intelligent conversation & a sensuous soulmate who respects the silences. London based. Please Reply with photo/tel no. to Box No 9508

LIGHT-HEARTED, funloving Cotswolds based attractive professional lady, 5'9", 42, who enjoys cooking (& eating!), skiing, & country walks. WLTM professional male, up to 52, with kind personality & character to enjoy the above. Please Reply with photo to Box 9239

LONDON Cambridge Enfield & Hertford areas Join the premier agency for business & professional people of all ages. Elite Intros Freecall 0500 103410

LONG-HAIRED slender professional lady, 44. Interests: golf, dancing, gardening, theatre, walking. WLTM well educated man, 35-50 preferably Surrey area. Photo please. Box 9317


...and plenty of sauce.

LOVELY black woman, musical, N/S, warm, caring mid 40's WLTM prof similar male, 42-52. SE based. Photo/tel no. Reply to Box No 9446

MADRID Beautiful feminine linguist, 34 WLTM prof single man with passion for life Photo please. Reply Box No 9450

MEN-Birmingham Solihull Sutton, Warks. Meet ladies ring Elite now 0121 386 2234

THE TIMES
cannot guarantee that respondents will receive a reply when answering advertisements on this page, although we hope that as a matter of courtesy they will. When making contact with people for the first time it is advisable to meet in a public place and let a member of your family or a trusted friend know where you will be. We would advise readers and advertisers to exercise caution when giving out personal details. This will be respected by genuine respondents.

MEN over 50. 100's of Elite ladies now. Special offer October, call free 0500 003 444

NOTTS, Leics, Lincs, for 100's of quality gentlemen, call now for free details. Elite Introductions 0115 9376104

NURSE young 48, 5'6", warm, sociable, WLTM intelligent personable, outgoing gentleman of similar age (South Coast). Please Reply to Box No 9429

OUTGOING powerful and wise, woman, slim, attractive - open to suggestions. Wishes to meet in London or the South East a confident, caring and intelligent, lively but not superficial, unattached man 40+. Box 9291

PRETTY lady, articulate & classy, feminine, romantic, sensuous, happily has everything in place but missing You. If you feel comfortable in town/country, if you have panache & a successful life style, if you are exhilarated by stimulating conversation, if you are humorous, warm, secure & uncomplicated, we are similar & I want to meet you (49+) Surrey based. Photo plse.Box 9464

PROFESSIONAL woman, GP, 46 (just), fit, honest, optimistic, urgently seeks energetic & loving man. I enjoy hill walking, cats, travel, gardening, S. Yorks but will travel w/e. Box 9545

RESPECTABLE attractive shy Oriental 37 own flat/car likes home, family, dancing TV WLTM marriage-minded 38-45 man. Photo ensures reply. Please reply to Box No 9383

REDHEAD with English rose complexion, 32, slim, tall & successful. I enjoy all sports, art & travel & WLTM a rugged, handsome, sporty prof man 32-40 for uncomplicated but committed relationship. London/Southeast. Photo/tel no. Please Reply to Box No 9442

SLIM, attractive prof lady with warm youthful personality seeks an intelligent professional with strong sense of humour to share her enjoyment of good food, interesting conversation, the Arts. Must be over 5'9", reasonably attractive, sincere, solvent, 47-55. Photo please, I will reciprocate. Berks based. Reply to Box 9439

SOMETIMES elegant, tall, prof lady seeks educated, independent, cultured 6' man, 50-60. Mid Shires. Photo please. Reply to Box No 9388

STRIKING slim, blue eyed brunette, 42, who loves travel, architecture, art deco, WLTM intelligent, caring, prof man 40 - 55 for good times and hopefully more. Midlands based (willing to travel). Please Reply to Box No 9419

SATURDAY RENDEZVOUS

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SOULMATE 55-62 smart gentleman N/S G.S.O.H. me smart widow late 50s (Herts Bucks) Photo please. Box No 9372

SPARKLING browned eyed blonde, 5'9", working central London looking for companionship & more. Preferred age 46-55. I am articulate, confident with a sense of fun. WLTM genuine sincere man to share interests in dining out, music, theatre, sport & travel. London/Home Counties. Reply with photo to Box No 9416

SURREY man 30-65 yrs required for our extensive ladies membership Call Mike at Close Encounters 01932 783165

STYLISH, intelligent widow, young 50's living in N Wales. Would like the friendship of caring, successful, well groomed man 50-60 who enjoys town and country life for fireside and happy times. Phone number and photo please to Box No 9447

SUNNY natured girl, 36, fit, professional, attractive, caring, gentle, loves life, who has everything but a special man, seeks gentleman 39-40, intelligent, sincere, optimistic outlook, strong in mind and body, solvent, sensitive, N/S, for marriage and children. Usual likes - mulled wine on bonfire night, walking barefoot on the sands, weekends away. Dislikes cruelty to animals, undisciplined children, and "the ain't it awful brigade"! SW London/North Surrey. Photo please. Box 9502

TWO tall, slim, attractive women early 40's, intelligent & fun, one blonde & one brunette, London based seek two tall handsome professional men for friendship & possible long term relationship. Photo essential. Please Reply to Box No 9125

USED to love Christmas, now I hate it with no one to share it with after 4 yrs widowed. Attractive, slim, blonde, warm, outgoing, solvent ex professional. Modest too (!) Many friends & interests but lacking a special someone. Ideally 58-65, W. Midlands, have car, will travel. Photo preferred. Please Reply to Box No 9449

VIBRANT London lawyer 42, urgently needs rescuing from taking root in her office. Send letter & photo if, like me, you are alone, tactile, humorous, enjoy log fires as well as Caribbean sun, love music, good food, wine & life. Box No 9547

WARM affectionate blue eyed lady, N/S, 30's, no children, Surrey WLTM confident solvent man 40-50 with old fashioned manners to snuggle up and settle down with. Recent photo plse. Box No 9387

WARM, glamorous woman (Jewish), 50 with charm, quality, & style seeks affectionate, caring, cultured, solvent life partner up to 60 to enjoy sunshine holidays, country outings & home life. London based. Photo helpful. Reply to Box No 9454

WILL you share my Times? I am attractive, slim, 40s and in Gloucestershire. Please Reply to Box No 9526

WHY not try this slightly unusual lady? She's 55, attractive, slender, n/s, University educated, divorced - seeking tallish, slim, sensitive male who's rather special. Somerset/Anywhere. Reply Box No 9544

YORKS/Humberside Lots of lovely ladies available Elite Intros Freecall 0500 525240

YORKS/Humberside Lots of stylish gentlemen available Elite Intros Freecall 0500 526240

ZZZzzz Wake up! Close Encounters is open Saturday & Sunday Call free 0800 141 141

LUTON, St Albans, Welwyn. Make the call that could change your life! Elite Introductions Call Suzanne 01582 831831

ADVENTUROUS (enjoys the Ritz/or an ashram), attractive slim, fit widow N/S, WLTM active & considerate man (in his 50's)(who likes to ski, walk & perhaps sail), to enjoy theatre, cinema, travel etc. London/Home Counties. Please Reply with photo to Box 9110

AFFECTIONATE, romantic, slim, green eyed blonde, divorced, Jewish, London based awaits intelligent, tactile, understanding man under 63 with similar cultural/sporting interests. Photo please Reply Box 9160

ANYONE THERE? Are you tall, 50, GSOH, affluent, educated, like travel, theatre, dining out, walking by the sea, adventure? Lets have dinner. Send menu & photo Plse Reply Box 9105

ARE you the frog that turns into my Prince when I kiss you? Vivacious business woman of German origin WLTM a well educated man with a witty SOH who is down to earth, likes wining, dining, theatre, musicals, country walks, travelling, sharing and caring to forge an honest relationship with compromises from both sides. If you are 44-52, 5'9" + live in London, please reply with a photo to Box No 9129

ARTICULATE, attractive, intelligent, warm, financially OK lady, NW London based seeks similar man of integrity, humour, charm & substance (up to 70). Varied interests. Please Reply with photo/tel no. Box 9191

ARTISTIC, mature, intelligent woman, London based, seeks similar N/S man. Box No 9217

SATURDAY RENDEZVOUS CONTINUED ON PAGE 24

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SATURDAY RENDEZVOUS

FAX: 0171 481 9313

SATURDAY RENDEZVOUS CONTINUED FROM PAGE 23

LADIES

CURRENTLY based in Wales, is a witty, trifle quirky, lateral-thinking, perceptive, sensitive, well-travelled, art-school graduate, Scottish, feisty (but loving) 54 yr. old lady who seeks a like-minded, n/s, romantic man, solvent, in his 50s and interested in sharing life's vicissitudes. Pls Reply to Box No 8979

CURVY but slim brunette. Mid 1940's vintage, warm and sincere, becoming more congruent by the day. Confident, happy, passionate, seeks a free spirit with integrity and compassion, solvent, able to carry his own baggage, under 60, n/s, photo essential, West Country. Please reply to Box No 9069

EASTERN Persian lady, (London) divorced, attractive, young 50, petite 5' 2", fair complexion. Affectionate/caring. Animal lover. Seeks genuine, sincere attractive tall prof. man (45-60) London/Surrey. Please send recent photo to Box No 8971

ELEGANT, pretty, American, 37, Professional, on assignment in Lisbon, comfortable in jeans and ballgowns, WLTM, cultured, successful, Christian businessman, WSOH, for friendship, travel, perhaps a family. Send recent photo of shoe collection. Please Reply to Box No 9119

GORGEOUS European mature woman WLTM equally gorgeous mature wealthy gentleman for on-going relationship with future. Please Reply to Box No 9196

GORGEOUS professional female seeks equivalent male 45-55 yrs with warmth, wit and integrity. Chester, N. Wales/ Shropshire border. Box No 9135

HIGH SPIRITED attractive sporty, prof lady seeks educated gentleman, 50-60 with GSOH for friendship and romance. Cheshire. Photo and letter appreciated Reply Box 9122

HUMOROUS, slim, attractive divorcee, 47, Anglo-American academic, 5ft 6, loves city and country life, music and conversation. Seeks prof. man, 45-55. London. Box No 8869

I'M 49, I'm young, I'm sensual and tactile, I'm artistic. I'm brilliant; If you are too, we should be together. Where are you? Plse Reply to Box No 9201

INDEPENDENT, educated, sensuous, elegant late 40's, 5ft 9" full-figured blonde of varied interests. WLTM intelligent, masculine, very successful caring man 6ft + (over 40) for warmth and comfort of lasting relationship. Genuine replies only. Photo appreciated. Please Reply to Box No 9178

LADY B.C. slim, 5'9", brunette, 35 yrs, single and pretty, looking for a tall, professional, articulate, well educated man of similar background, and very single(!) South East based. Letter, photo, & tel. no please to Box No 9200

LIFE is more fun shared. London based cultured elegant lady, 60 something, WLTM 60 something cultured, fit, 'young in spirit' gentleman for drinks/ lunch or dinner, weekends & travel. Must be genuine with GSOH, interested in good food, wine, swimming, travel & country pursuits. Please reply with photo/tel no. to Box No 9210

LONDON Intensely individual introductions in and around London Call Naomi/Mark Close Encounters 0171 289 3777

SATURDAY RENDEZVOUS

LADIES

LONDON based slim brunette, 37, ex-workaholic, now enjoying the good things in life (theatre, travel, wining and dining) seeks professional man with SOH to share them with. Photo (will be returned) and phone no. appreciated. Box No 9198

LOVELY Victorian Cotswold Home with lovely educated lady owner, just 50, children fled the nest, now seeks professional kind 45-60 yrs happy gentleman to help entertain, wine & dine and bring love and laughter back and share walks, talks, sports, theatre, travel etc. Please Reply to Box No 8974

OUTGOING, attractive professional lady (40's) who works too hard & wants to play more. Enjoys all sports, eating out, drinking, music, travel, & socialising. WLTM good looking, kind man (40's) with similar interests & GSOH who'd be prepared to see how we get on. London/South. Reply with photo/letter to Box No 9116

PETITE bateau (23) French bilingual. Attractive & fun. Cherbourg seeks male friend. Photo plse. Reply to Box No 9219

SPARKLING Yorkshire lady (40's) looking for likeable guy whose zest for life will add extra dimensions to hers. She is stylish, solvent and enjoys dining out, sunshine holidays, the theatre, walking, tennis and Bridge. Photo appreciated. Please Reply to Box No 9168

TALL, attractive 28 yr old girl, Christian, Oxford grad, would love to find partner who is genuinely kind. Reply Box No 9213

VIVACIOUS, attractive, refined and capable professional lady to compliment distinguished, sophisticated, under 50, seriously successful City/country gentleman, 5'10" +. Photo essential. Box No 9043

WARM, attractive, vibrant Somerset woman, young 40's, post feminist, post modern, postgrad, arty, cosmopolitan, sporty, self-aware seeks her match. Photo plse to Box 9207

WINSOME Wench desires Dashing Daredevil, over 6', over 45, faster than Fangio, wittier than Wilde, to pursue me in Peak District. Box No 8968

GENTLEMEN

ABSOLUTE gentleman, 6 ft, cultured, slim, strong, 50 with boyish SOH, seeks pretty, younger woman to romance, hold hands by the seashore, and generally enjoy life & the good times. London/Home Counties. Please Reply with photo & phone no. to Box No 9562

AMERICAN 48, UK resident 8 yrs, WLTM prof woman under 45, tall, fit, N/S, SOH, enjoy sport, travel. Berks/ Hants/ Surrey. Photo please. Box No 9423

ADVENTUROUS, extensively travelled professional, 40 yrs, 5'8", quiet nature, GSOH, working from home in beautiful National Park seeks intelligent, caring, feminine girl 25-35, any nationality, anywhere. Share simple rural living, long haul trips, country pubs & log burning fire. Photo/wellies appreciated. Reply to Box No 9462

SATURDAY RENDEZVOUS

THE TIMES
cannot guarantee that respondents will receive a reply when answering advertisements on this page, although we hope that as a matter of courtesy they will. When making contact with people for the first time it is advisable to meet in a public place and let a member of your family or a trusted friend know where you will be. We would advise readers and advertisers to exercise caution when giving out personal details. This will be respected by genuine respondents.

GENTLEMEN

ACTIVE professional, 1.75 m gentleman, humorous, attractive, kind, romantic, successful, sincere, slim from Bath/Wiltshire. Enjoys conversation, culture, countryside, commerce, wining/ dining, sport. Wishing to care for compatible, warm, amusing, intelligent, tactile lady circa 35/45 in loyal loving relationship. Please Reply with photo to Box No 9540

AMIABLE, compliant, domesticated businessman, solvent, homeowner, WLTM assertive, sophisticated lady to take charge of my life. Box No 9252

ANDOVER, Salisbury, Wilts. Join Elite Introductions, we can guarantee national strength through local Offices. For professional and confidential introductions to long term relationships, call 07000 781 981

ARE you 52/67, fit, free (spouse, kids, job, pets), N/S, who plays tennis, skis, loves opera & is willing to live SW France/SW London? (+ graduate?, + linguist?, + pianist?) Box No 9482

ARMENIAN gentleman, 48, well travelled looking for tall, young girlfriend under 40 for friendship/relationship. Write with details & photo Box 9100

AS Autumn gold sparkles, this tall, attractive, sensuous man, 40, Bath/London with a wicked sense of humour, seeks a fun loving younger woman to pamper and for champagne, passion and romance. I am full of energy and have a zest for life in all its magnificent dimensions. For some late Summer fun, frolics and friendship with a successful man who really knows how to enjoy life,please write with your phone number to Box No 9411

BARRISTER, retired, 60's, smoker, Jewish with atheist leanings and eclectic interests. Manchester area. WLTM lady, with attractive and intelligent personality.Reply Box No 9402

BOURNEMOUTH/Dorset 100's of very special ladies waiting now. Call Elite Introductions 01202 891500 7 days

BRISTOL, Bath, Exeter Truro Ring Caroline Crowther the Caring and Personal Agency to find an intelligent interesting partner. Call me on 01179 735877

BUSINESSMAN Indian, 30ish, London, GSOH, own house, businesses & properties, searching for genuine lady to fall in love and grow old together. Box No 9286

CARDIFF, Glos, Swindon. Ring Caroline Crowther the Caring and Personal Agency to find an intelligent interesting partner. Call me on 01179 735877

CEROC male,49, with a firm lead seeks female 30+ for ceroc and enjoying life. Any standard even beginners. Beds, Cambs, Norfolk, London. Photo and phone appreciated. Box 9370

CHICHESTER/Portsmouth. 25m radius. 100's of professional gentlemen wanting to meet you. Elite Introductions telephone now 01730 895278

SATURDAY RENDEZVOUS

EXCEPTIONALLY young early 60's, slim, cultured, Jewish (n/s) professional man who loves music, theatre & travel, seeks very attractive, slim, independent 45+ lady to share the good things in life. Recent photo essential. South East. Please Reply to Box No 9473

GOOD-LOOKING, successful Oxford Co. director, graduate (47), tall, slim, sporty, well travelled, seeks lively, attractive lady for friendship, laughter & life's thrills & spills. Tel no/photo essential. Box 9474

HAVE you that rare combination of independence with trad family values? This sensitive yet outgoing, 6'1", slim, presentable 31 yr old, solvent & well educated is also fun. Interests: water sports, keeping fit, etc. Mids. based. Photo. Box 9294

GTIER MANCHESTER/Cheshire. Why phone one man we have so many. Elite 0161 628 3518

I AM a widower of 4 years, 49, fair haired (long at present), blue eyes, 5'8, slightly built. I am self employed and (if it matters) wealthy and (if it matters) I have a degree. I own homes in London and Cheshire. My two children have grown up and it is time for me to start again with a younger woman. Photo (essential and which I promise to return) and phone number Please Reply to Box No 9543

LANCS, Mersey. Chesh. We can find you a new special partner Maggie: Elite 01695 625681

I AM sincere, kind, romantic, sporty Jewish gentleman n/s, active, in early fifties, living NW London. I WLTM an attractive slim woman in early 40's with bubbly personality for permanent relationship. Photo please. Reply to Box No 9403

INDEPENDENT, active, handsome widower, 52, successful professional who enjoys laughing, dancing, golf & bridge. At home walking in the Lake District dining at Langhams. Looking for a bubbly, slim,attractive N/S feminine partner 35-50 with an enthusiastic, interesting outlook on life. London/ Home Counties. Plse reply with photo/tel no. to Box 9515

LEEDS, York, H'gte Why write to just one lady, reverse the odds in your favour call Catherine Elite Intro 01937 587933

LAUGHTER is the next best medicine says this warm, strong, competive, energetic entrepreneur (32), successful and, dare I say it, goodlooking. He'd WLTM a challenging, intelligent, upfront lady who is feminine & warm yet can speak for herself . Kindness is very important and she, like him, makes the most of each & every day. London/Home Counties. Please Reply with photo/tel no to Box No 9558

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SATURDAY RENDEZVOUS

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LONDON AND NATIONWIDE

LONDON SW1, recently arrived, single white male, tall professional, early 40's, GSOH, fit, good looking, not short of cash, likes travel & good food/wine. You - under 42, not short, live in London, slim, wildly attractive, GSOH, enjoy life. Please send photo to Box No 9531

LUTON, St Albans, Welwyn. Make the call that could change your life! Elite Introductions Call Suzanne 01582 831831

OUTGOING, caring, attractive, N/S divorced Christian professional man, 36, seeks female companion aged 28-38, for friendship/relationship in Southern England/Channel Islands. Interests include travelling, antiques/crafts, walking, restaurants. Please write with recent photo/telephone number to Box No 9297

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PAKISTANI male graduate, 28 from well established & educated London family, slim & attractive enjoys travel, theatre & sport seeks female 21-24 for marriage. Must be educated to degree level with GSOH, photo appreciated. Box No 9472

PARIS for Christmas? - Tall, handsome, intelligent, successful and creative male, 30. WLTM similar lady, 25-30, to share; friendship/romance, fine food, sailing, long walks, travel, arts, cinema, theatre, conversation and great fun. London based. Photo please. Reply to Box No 9458

PHARMACIST, 36, single, caring. Likes movies, countryside, eating out, travelling, motoring WLTM single lady 27-40 around Midlands for friendship or lasting relationship. Photo please. ALA. Reply to Box 8655

POLISH background. Young man, 40, honest, kind, joyful, interested in walking, travelling, dancing, cinema WLTM sincere, n/s, single female 30's for friendship/marriage Box 9367

RETIRED male graduate, seeks comfortably built educated woman for friendship, etc. E. Surrey. Reply to Box No 9293

SATURDAY RENDEZVOUS

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SOMERSET energetic, tall, caring professional, 48 who enjoys country living would like to meet a warmhearted, honest 38+ lady to share some fun & laughter and the simple things in life. Photo plse to Box 9380

SOUTHERN man, 37 yrs, 6ft, single, own business, living in rural surroundings, well educated, well traveled into [illegible] sports, skiing, sailing & Spoof & classic cars seeking 'classy younger female, slim, attractive, sporty with wicked sense of humour. Any nationality. Kent/Sussex borders. Photo please to Box No 9512

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SOUTH CUMBRIA professional male late 40s solvent n/s interested in the Great Outdoors, travel etc seeks female companion (40-50 yrs) with similar interests for outings and friendship. Plse Rply Box 9203

SPORTY, attractive, mid-thirties doctor who enjoys travel, socialising and much more WLTM intelligent, attractive, fun-loving female 25-35 for friendship and perhaps long-term relationship. South East/London/Midlands. Please reply with photo. Box No 9204

SUCCESSFUL businessman with overseas interests, good looking, elegant and well educated, divorced, non smoker living in South East Kent seeks relationship with beautiful elegant cultured lady max 44 who loves countryside as well as travelling abroad. Telephone and photo are essential for immediate contact. Please Reply to Box No 9404

SURREY ladies 30-65 years required for our extensive male membership Call Mike at Close Encounters 01932 783165

SW1 Male, tall, blond, fit, suntanned easy going 47, very successful and in full flow. Seeks happy attractive young woman, London based. Adventure. Fun, hopefully romance. Photo please. Reply Box 9161

TALL, attractive, successful, professional, 40, 6'3", worldly, witty, hunky, romantic, sexy, very genuine. You're attractive, vivacious, romantic, sincere, voluptuous curvy figure, sexy, feminine, love stockings, high heels, roses, champagne! 35-50. Photo please. London/ surrounds. Reply to Box No 9378

TIME for us - Genuine man, successful, tall, 55, cultured, well travelled, good appearance, caring WLTM intelligent, attractive adventurous lady for committed long term, maybe moving Europe. Box No 9585

SATURDAY RENDEZVOUS

VERY attractive successful businessman, 39, enjoying quality life style. Interests include good food, wine, travel, the arts, antiques, the countryside. WLTM very attractive lady with style, 25-40 who is equally at home in the country or city for long term relationship/ marriage. Nationality unimportant. Photo essential Box 9396

VERY successful businessman, tall, athletic, early forties. Enjoys travel, arts & sport. Looking for lady with a great figure & smile to match. London SW1. Photo appreciated. Reply Box 9529

WANTED n/s attractive, elegant, slim, (not too tall) lady up to 35 years old who likes the good things in life including candlit dinners and country pubs, for a successful, charming, good looking (so they tell me!) n/s 5'3 business man. South Coast Photo please Reply Box 9560

WARM, loving, fit, honest & cuddly Jewish male, adult kids over 20, based in NW London with good looks, charm & character, 55 seeks similar N/S lady, 45-50 for friendship/romance. Photo apprec. to Box No 9261

WARM man, slim, 6 ft, attractive, youthful 50's, with lots of love to give! Are you in your 40's, very slim, well spoken, tactile, & enjoy the business scene? Lets be best friends & lovers forever! Photo please. Gloucs. based, can relocate. Box 9459

WIDOWER, 54, professional, semi-retired, enjoys holidays, travel seeks attractive lady for friendship. Please reply with photo to Box No 9630

WRITER, successful, solvent, mid 50's seeks muse 30-45 London area to share dinners, movies, Larry Sanders, Elmore Leonard, Mozart, Miles, skiing and the occasional Match of the Day. Photo please to Box No 9460

WRITER, 62, widower, N/S, WLTM Lady for friendship etc. W. Middx. Photo please. Box 9541

YOUNG ladies if you are 20-35 we have hundreds of stylish young men special offer Oct. call Elite free 0500 003 444

YOUTHFUL 60's widower retired Cambridge Engineer. Living Rutland, country and cultural pursuits seeks intelligent well dressed loving lady under 60. Please Reply to Box No 9522

ZZZzzz Wake up! Close Encounters is open Saturday & Sunday Call free 0800 141 141

AMIABLE male, 53, well-built, physically a little frayed at the edges, interests include sailing, music, countryside, seeks warm, easy-going slightly younger lady. London/ Essex/Kent. Photo appreciated. Please Reply to Box No 9205

BUBBLY, slim, petite, 35 year old blue eyed brunette, WLTM sporty, good looking, professional man 28-38 in the London/Home Counties area. Photo please to Box No 9218

BUSY prof man, medium build, 55, widowed but had very happy and successful marriage. Committed christian, warm, caring, kind, affectionate. Open confident personality, n/s, varied mainly cultural interests, particularly music, East Midlands based. WLTM 40-50 something, prof/business lady of similar qualities. Attractive, feminine, with own interests, for friendship initially. Recent photo appreciated. Good letter and your phone number please. ALA. Please Reply to Box No 9038

BEE KEEPER country loving prof male. 74. WLTM cultured, sensuous, n/s lady 50+ for worthwhile relationship. Wales. Please Reply to Box No 8957

SATURDAY RENDEZVOUS

CARING prof tall, slim, n/s male, very handsome. 36 years, single, own house, enjoys sports and many interests WLTM slim attractive n/s female with Christian values 25-35 years to join me for this seasons skiing holiday and hopefully for lasting relationship. East Midlands. Genuine replies to Box No 9206

CARING, N/S single professional man, 36, seeks female companion for friendship/relationship around Midlands. Like travelling, cinema, music, countryside. Photo/letter please. ALA. Please Reply to Box No 9152

COMPANY chairman, living in West End, very handsome with everything but unlucky in love, naturally faithful, thoughtful, kind, caring, generous, honest, sensitive & warm WLTM a lady with the same qualities for a genuine relationship. Must be sincere, truthful, youthful & stunning. Photo essential. Please reply to Box No 9197

CURVACEOUS (14/16), tallish, bubbly, educated lovely lady (no hangups), 48+, N/S, free to enjoy full happy life is sought by successful Surrey businessman widower (strong character, romantic outlook (Virgo). Many interests include skiing, gardening, animals, home, travel. Photo & long letter. Box 9155

DECADENT, cloak wearing history and poetry reading wine drinking, music loving, eccentric smoker 50 seeks an alluring sensuous lady 40-65. Commitment not essential. London, S.East, E.Anglia. Please Reply to Box No 9015

DECENT Dick Dastardly seeks jolly mate Muttley for Derbys. Dales patrol. 40-50ish prof. Graduate, vis. ID youthful not essential. Please Reply to Box No 9106

DESPERATLEY Seeking Susan or You. If you're an independent bubbly n/s, blonde GSOH 38-43 and long to share passion for travel and usual leisurely pursuits with fun loving & caring 45 year old North Kent prof, reply with photo to Box 9153.

DREAM Team. Three smart handsome athletic profs 36-38 seek three gorgeous spirited ladies 24-34 one for a fun triple date in Croydon (what?). Please Reply with photo to Box 9156

ECLECTIC restoration specialist seeks persevering sidekick/ soulmate, 26-35, nonsmoker, tall, sensuous, to share exasperation & enchantment of listed buildings. Box No 9130

ENTERTAINING businessman, tall, slim, intelligent, reliable, optimistic, easy going, enjoys all the good things in life from the countryside to cooking, seeks slender, stylish lady to prove to him that life can begin at 50! S.W. Herts/London/50 miles, Photo please. Reply to Box No 9121

EX-MILLIONAIRE found alive in North London with two kittens! Looks Jewish, 40 something, 6 feet - appears in good condition. Would the owner, a non-smoking, young, slim female who looks like an angel, walks like a Princess and acts like a lady, claim him immediately. Photo/tel no plse to Box 9171

EXOTIC (British/Egyptian background) man (51), healthy, humorous & fit, well travelled but buried in academia, WLTM educated kind lady for serious relationship. London based. Photo plse to Box No 9128

GOOD-LOOKING man, 43, university educated, varied interests including classical music and theatre, seeks attractive, sensitive, thirty-something woman for friendship, tenderness, joyful romps and lasting love. London area.Box No 9001

SATURDAY RENDEZVOUS

HANDSOME hedonist, London based 38yr old, seeks sophisticated lady. He: highly educated, international businessman. She: sparky, loves travel, to wine and dine, aged 24-34. Write with photo and tel number. Box No 8772

HOLIDAY 2 weeks in October from London to SW France offered to mature educated lady driver. Box No 9166

HOME Alone. Managing Director, late 40's, tall, dark, attractive, affluent, loves sport, travel and all the good things in life. WLTM attractive woman 30/45 to share his pursuits. Photo essential. Box No 9208

INTERNATIONAL Businessman, recently divorced, with apartment in London & the Continent, enjoying a good life - restaurants, theatre, parties & travel (business & pleasure) to the Continent, California & the Far East, seeks that special person to share his interests & fun. You must be very attractive, between 21 & 35, photo & phone no. appreciated. Please Reply to Box No 8958

MISSION Impossible? Attractive single gent, 31, seeks outgoing, intelligent female for many pursuits. Save the last dance for me! Photo please. Please reply to Box No 9066

PERSONALITY,40's,gsoh, funloving,n/s,ok-looking?Me too.Up to 25mls from Eros(who else?),pref NW Lond. A note,tel & photo pls.Box No 8923

VERY good looking, successful, well travelled businessman, 50, 5'9", caring, romantic & living in the Worc's, countryside seeks a beautiful & stylish, well spoken & refined lady, 35-50 who is romantic, caring, tender & loving. Someone very special who can share my varied interests from good music to dining out, log fires & a close loving relationship. Tel no/ photo essential. Reply to Box No 9258

VIENNESE 50's, 6'2", slim, black hair, music lover, N/S, Rolls Royce, unattached, living London SW 1, Rome & Paris wishes curvaceous lady up to 40 who appreciates love, tenderness & fidelity for companionship or more. Photo please Please Reply to Box No 9339

WARM, loving, fit, honest & cuddly Jewish male, adult kids over 20, based in NW London with good looks, charm & character 55 seeks similar N/S lady for friendship/romance. Photo apprec. to Box No 9261

SUCCESSFUL businessman with overseas interests, good looking, elegant and well educated divorced, non smoker living in South East Kent seeks relationship with beautiful elegant cultured lady max 44 who loves countryside as well as travelling abroad. Telephone and photo are essential for immediate contact. Please Reply to Box No 9306

SW1 Male, tall, blond, fit suntanned easy going 47, very successful and in full flow. Seeks happy attractive young woman, London based. Adventure. Fun, hopefully romance. Photo please. Reply Box 9[illegible]

TALL, attractive, successful, professional, 40, 6'3", worldly witty, hunky, romantic, sexy very genuine. You're attractive vivacious, romantic, sincere voluptuous curvy figure, sexy feminine, love stockings, high heels, roses, champagne! 35-50. Photo please. London/ surrounds. Reply to Box No 9378

TALL personable, gentle, bearded old reprobate (well 60 actually) seeks mature alluring temptress for delectable discerning dalliance. Thames Valley Reply to Box No 9102

TALL quiet, Northeast professional male, 46, GSOH, enjoys cinema, theatre, travel, shopping, seeks slim, warm, confident lady, also with GSOH for enjoyable times, possibly more Please Reply to Box No 9309

SATURDAY RENDEZVOUS

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One of our 21 staff, I am a client advisor. My job is to make friends with clients allocated to me, assist them to select people to meet and guide them throughout their membership, until such time as they find someone very special.
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My company pays the joining fees of any other introduction service in the world if a client is unhappy, which is very rare indeed. I've even seen them refund clients' money if they encounter financial difficulties such as redundancy.
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Love, Linda.

P.S. Regards to all our ex members.

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CHESS

by Raymond Keene

ENGLAND's fourth place in the Chess Olympiad in Erevan was a good performance, although silver seemed within our grasp at one stage. On board four, last year's British champion, grandmaster Matthew Sadler, scored 10½/13 and won the gold medal for best individual performance. Here is a sample of his play from Erevan, which has catapulted him to a new rating level of around 2,650, knocking on the door of world championship candidate status.

W: Carsten Hoi (Denmark)
B: Matthew Sadler (England)
Armenia, September 1996
Queen's Gambit Accepted

1 d4 d5 2 Nf3 Nf6
3 c4 dxc4

Sadler has made a speciality of accepting the Queen's Gambit. Although Black surrenders the centre, he gains fluid piece play and White's initiative can dissipate with alarming speed if he is at all inaccurate.

4 e3 e6 5 Bxc4 c5
6 0-0 a6 7 Nc3

This simple developing move lends point to Black's intended expansion with his queenside pawns. White's minor pieces now act as targets for Black's advancing pawn mass. Better is 7 Qe2 followed quickly by Rd1.

7 ... b5 8 Bb3 Bb7
9 Qe2 Nbd7 10 Rd1 Qb6
11 a4 c4 12 Bc2 b4

Black's opening strategy has been a triumph. White has failed to gain any action in the centre and his minor pieces are now on the run.

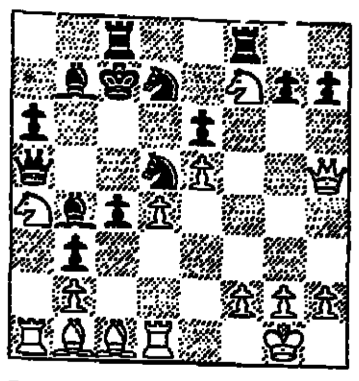
13 a5 Qc7 14 Na4 Rc8
15 e4 b3 16 Bb1 Qxa5

Having lost a pawn into the bargain, White's only chance is to launch a do or die attack.

17 e5 Nd5 18 Ng5 Bb4
19 Qf3 Rf8 20 Qh5

White's problem is that 20 Nxh7 fails to 20 ... Bc6 21 Nxf8 Nxf8 when Black's position is rock solid and he will soon pick up the pinned White knight on a4.

20 ... Kd8 21 Nxf7+ Kc7



Black's king has successfully fled from the attack on the opposite wing and Black still has the mighty threat of ... Bc6.

22 Nd6 Bxd6 23 exd6+ Kb8 24 Ne5. A last attempt to evade the devastating ... Bc6.

24 ... Qxa1 25 Nxd7+ Ka7
26 Nxf8 Rxf8 27 Be4 c3

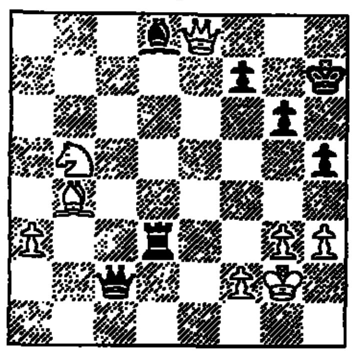
White's ingenious struggling has enabled him to avoid huge losses, but now Black decides the day.

28 bxc3 b2 29 Bd2 Nf4
30 Qg4 Bxe4

White resigns.

In the England match against China Jon Speelman was caught in a diabolical snare. In the diagram position, although White is material down, the situation still looks unclear but Black hurled a thunderbolt.

White: Speelman (England)
Black: Peng (China)
Armenia, September 1996



1 ... Rxg3+ 2 Kxg3 Bh4+
3 Kxh4 Qxf2+ 4 Kg5 Qf5+
5 Kh4 Qf4

Checkmate. A sensational and beautiful finale, though in his excitement Peng overlooked a faster mate, 4 ... f6.

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

White to play. This position is from the game Breustadt - Brameyer, USSR 1968. Can you spot White's key winning move?

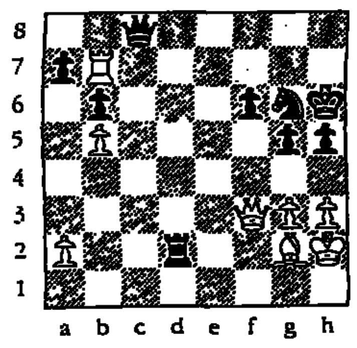
Send your answers on a postcard to *The Times*, 1 Pennington Street, London, E1 9XN.

The first three correct answers drawn on Thursday will win a British Chess Magazine publication.

The answer will be published next Saturday.

Solution to last week's competition: 1 ... Qxf2+

Last week's winners: H A Rea, Seascale, Cumbria; M Day, Newcastle-under-Lyme, Staffordshire; N Balderson, Amersham, Buckinghamshire.



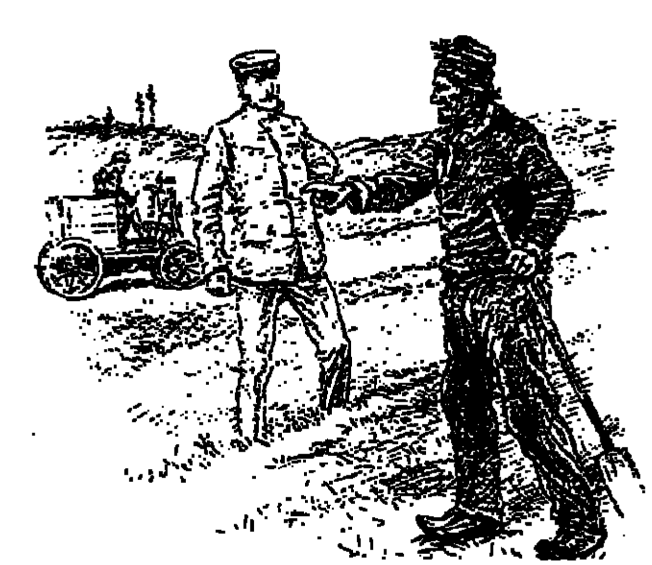
PUNCHLINE

READERS are invited to write an amusing caption for the cartoon (right), from The Strand Magazine (reproduced with permission from Westminster Libraries, Sherlock Holmes Collection, Marylebone Library.)

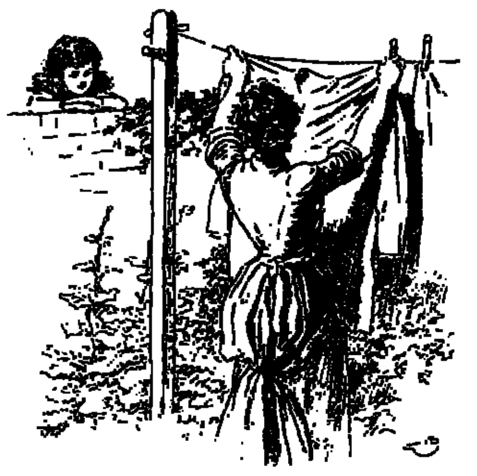
The cartoon will be printed again next week on the Games page with a caption from those submitted.

Send caption suggestions on a postcard with your name and address to: Strand Caption (21), Weekend Games Page, *The Times*, 1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN.

The Editor's decision is final. The closing date for entries is Wednesday, October 16.



THERE WAS NOTHING FOR IT, HE WAS TOLD, BUT TO RETURN TO GISORS



"So this man wrote a book and they stopped calling you Duchess of York. What happened next?"

The winning caption for last week's cartoon (above) was submitted by Brian Lockett of Chiswick, London W4

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

HARMATTAN
a. An old district of New York
b. A dusty wind
c. An African language

JESS
a. A wimp
b. A strap
c. To prevaricate

HERONSEW
a. A young heron
b. A feudal obligation
c. An embroidery stitch

JACKMAN
a. A retainer
b. A stooge
c. A game with dice

Answers on page 19

BRIDGE

by Robert Sheehan

THIS DEFENSIVE problem is from the trials to select the English team for the home internationals. The contract is Four Hearts and you are East.

♠108
♥762
♦KQ9
♣AQ843

N / W E / S

♠QJ53
♥QJ10
♦A1063
♣72

Contract: Four Hearts by South
Lead: the jack of clubs

South has shown a strongish hand with good hearts and a singleton diamond. He wins the club in hand with the king, and plays off the ace and king of hearts, on which West throws the two and five of diamonds. Declarer now continues with the five of clubs. West plays the six and dummy wins with the queen. Next comes the ace of clubs. How do you defend?

You know that declarer has six tricks in hearts and three in clubs. If he has the ace of spades he has *ten tricks. So you must assume* your partner has that card. (Even if you didn't know declarer had a singleton diamond you would have to assume he had — holding more than one he is bound to make the contract).

If the declarer's shape is 2-7-1-3, East must ruff the club and lead the queen of spades. If East fails to ruff, declarer will play a fourth club, getting rid of his losing diamond, and just lose two spade tricks. But if declarer is 3-7-1-2, ruffing is fatal — declarer still *gets away a losing diamond, and* after giving up two spade tricks gets a ruff in dummy for his tenth trick. The winning defence is for East to discard. When declarer then plays spades, East gets in with the jack and draws dummy's trump, enabling the defence to take three spade tricks.

So how can East tell how many clubs West has? It is from West's second club. Most good players play "current count". That is, on the second round of a suit a defender shows his "current count". If he has three cards left he plays the lowest; with two cards he plays the higher. As West played the lowest club outstanding (the six), he indicates he has three clubs left.

Thus, the winning defence is for East to discard. As East was my partner Brian Senior, he didn't trust my carding (on balance a winning policy), and so he ruffed and let the contract home.

The full deal was:

♠108
♥762
♦KQ9
♣AQ843

♠A964
♥-
♦J8752
♣J1096

N / W E / S

♠QJ53
♥QJ10
♦A1063
♣72

♠K72
♥AK98543
♦4
♣K5

Our teammate, John Armstrong, took a better line in Four Hearts. After just one top heart he played on clubs, and now could not be prevented from getting a spade ruff. East could only get in once in *spades to play trumps.*

COMPUTER GAMES AND PASTIMES

by Tim Wapshott

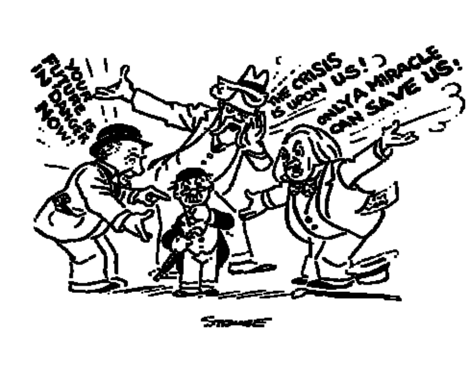
DESPITE a database of 18,000 political and satirical cartoons from British newspapers and other publications between 1912 and 1990, **Cartoons CD-Rom** is a spectacularly humourless affair. To further drive home the disappointment, the single disc will set you back a hefty £450. Cartoons CD-Rom is a joint *production by the London* publishers Context and the University of Kent, in Canterbury, whose Centre for the Study of Cartoons and Caricature compiled the collection.

Featured cartoons cannot be printed, but can be ordered from the university at £20 to £30 a time. Satirists whose works are included range from Sidney "George" Strube and Michael Cummings, who both worked for the *Daily Express*, Garland, who appeared in *The Daily Telegraph*, from 1966 to 1980, David Low, a regular in the *Evening Standard* from 1927 to 1950, to Emmwood, who appeared in the *Daily Mail* from 1945 to 1975.

What is not in any doubt is the quality of their output, but there are many shortcomings to Cartoons CD-Rom, which runs on Windows. First, is the poor quality of the cartoon images. Some captions cannot even be read. One would have hoped that the team faced with the daunting task of scanning the 18,000 or so images into the database would have opted for enhanced quality. Any defence that corners were cut in *order to fit everything onto* a single disc and so keep costs down holds little water — for £450 they should have upgraded the quality and, if necessary, spread the title over two or three discs.

Another disaster is Justis, the full-text retrieval software used to access the database and view the images. It's a maddening system, awkward to master. Cartoons can be searched in many ways such as author, *subject matter and date but* nowhere do you get the opportunity to browse effortlessly around the entries at leisure. Call up a cartoon and it is invariably too big to see complete on the screen without clicking through a tiresome reduction procedure.

I hoped that Cartoons CD-Rom would be a joy to play around with, and perhaps would offer *one or two neat tricks such as,* say, a screensaver mode. To argue that this is a reference tool so it need not be sophisticated is to miss the point. The university could have reached a wide audience with a database which should have been a definitive social history charted through satire — instead they squandered the opportunity. There are many chuckles in your entries for **Cyberspace Twenty-Six**, in which you were asked to come up with a game or multimedia experience you would attempt to make if you win one of our ten **Scala MM100 Multimedia** authoring kits.


YOUR FUTURE IN DANGER NOW!
THE CRISIS IS UPON US!
ONLY A MIRACLE CAN SAVE US!

Cartoons CD-Rom is a spectacularly frustrating and humourless affair

Neville Copperstone and family from Bristol dreamt up a game with spiders. Neville wrote: "I have been threatened with a treacle bath if I don't mention that the initial idea came from our 13-year-old, Stephen.

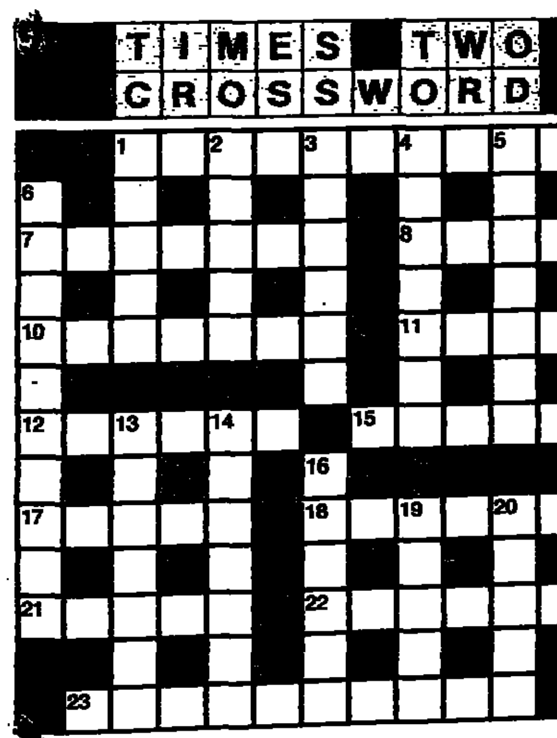
"A spider is blown to ground level from the attic of an Addams Family-type house. It has to make it back through the house to the attic, starting in the basement. There are three sizes of *spiders: large (easy), spindly (me*dium) and small (difficult). Each spider moves in different ways — the large one is fast but can easily be seen, spindly is slow, like a laid-back hippy, but can disguise itself well, while the small spider is frenetic and can easily fall through the floorboards."

Richard Hayman-Jones from Pontypool, Gwent, came up with an unusual game of money and power called "Dog Eat Dog". The game would look a little like a Monopoly board which stretches off into a bustling metropolis. He explained: "You come across an old shopkeeper and you're just losing interest in hearing about her hip operation when she mentions the whereabouts of a hidden safe. She'll tell you the whereabouts or give you the key if you first solve her riddle. When you do track down the safe, it is guarded by a gang which you have to overpower."

Paul Welch, of Bramcote, Nottingham, entered the world of local newspapers in Paper Chase. "You are the owner of the local evening title in a small town," he wrote. "A mischievous hacker has rewritten all the stories in the next edition. Do nothing and your *publication will become a laugh*ing stock, correct them and your paper will provide exclusive coverage of the most memorable week in the town's history."

"Satire should, like a polished razor keen, wound with a touch that's scarcely felt or seen." Lady Mary Wortley Montagu (1689-1762).

TIMES TWO CROSSWORD



No 911

ACROSS
1 Warm current off UK (4,6)
7 New production of old play (7)
8 Express indifference (5)
10 Make bigger (7)
11 Spree (5)
12 Explode myth (of) (6)
15 Sort of shepherd, of measles (6)
17 Decomposed organic material (5)
18 A permit (7)
21 Stage (of process) (5)
22 (Point) conferring superiority (7)
23 Old inter-city service vehicle (10)

DOWN
1 *Chairman's hammer* (5)
2 Alcohol-processing organ (5)
3 Fine cutlery (6)
4 Causing (contemptuous) laughter (7)
5 Word made of initials (7)
6 Amity (10)
9 UK, US commando (5,5)
13 Rant (7)
14 Personal savings (4,3)
16 Lilian Baylis's Waterloo theatre (3,3)
19 Poet, conspirator (*J Caesar*) (5)
20 Welsh town: below (*poet.*) (5)

SOLUTION TO NO 910
ACROSS: 1 Cope 3 Jingoist 8 Rant 9 St David's 11 Wilderness 14 Repast 15 Tirana 17 Face to face 20 Of a piece 21 Hive 22 Ordinand 23 Neat
DOWN: 1 Careworn 2 Penelope 4 Intend 5 Grass widow 6 Ibis 7 Toss 10 Persuasion 12 Parasite 13 Basement 16 Beacon 18 Polo 19 Bald

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TIMES COMPUTER CROSSWORDS by David Akenhead — ONLY £10.25 per title inc. VAT (circa 60 crosswords each). For IBM MS-DOS and Acorn RISCOS PCs. Range includes: Times Crosswords (19 titles) - The Times Concise (4 titles) - The Times Two (5 titles) - The Times Jubilee Edition 1932-87. The Sunday Times titles (various 38). AND INTRODUCING The Times Crosswords — Omnibus Editions 1 & 2 £25 (240 Times Crosswords) or £14.99 (120 Times Crosswords). Send cheques with order payable to Akom Ltd, 51 Manor Lane, London SE13 5QW. Return Delivery (UK). Tel 0181 852 4575 (24hrs). No credit cards.

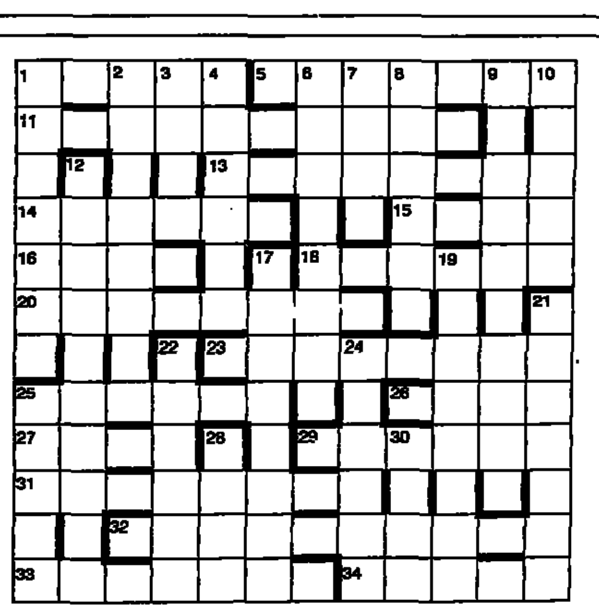
THE LISTENER CROSSWORD

No 3379: Seating Plan by Machiavelli

Before being seated, answers to across clues should be advanced one place up the table from where you'd expect, based on their clue numbers. All answers can be justified by *Chambers* (1993) except 27, which is in Collins.

ACROSS
1 Long nap is taken by old woman
5 Player bowled — an act enabling opponent to be put out
11 Expenses cover plenty of pheasant for such as Tereshkova
13 Sailor — he gets worried with more shallow water
14 Van — it is not permitted to carry about one's instrument
15 Official responsible for rejecting much beef
16 God hasn't got a title
18 Mineral water frozen on a stick (two words)
20 Pots of money mayonnaise brought in
23 Irresolute Conservative, native of Isle of Wight
25 August sun badly affected men
26 Zoonosis beginning to eradicate fish
27 Pass, following advanced system of bidding
29 Copper in Perth informed about chop
31 Musical short of opening music
32 It adds sparkle and strangeness, teaching English to region outside earth
33 Relieved about doctor being brought down
34 Brownie points I received

DOWN
1 A lot of people want goodness to be delicious (7)
2 When climbing, slip around verglas in particular (8)
3 Conclude yuan originally came from mandarin's offices (4)
4 Girl died without children, hiding the truth (6)
6 Suffering doctors diagnose (8)
7 Two Indians speaking language of West Africa (4)
8 Cornish resort is stifling (6)
9 Bashful member of congregation confronted (10)
10 Cod, turbot or skate? Take your pick (5)
12 Drug a minor must decline (10)
17 Tenant's right before it was replaced (8)
19 Can gay society still ... (8)
21 ... cry? Not, it appears, in London area, north of river (7)
22 Many people get embroiled in these, wanting a rise — good luck to them (6)
24 A piece from 'The Sound of Music' (6)
25 Garment turned up 250 times (5)
28 Unemployed, in despair, leave England for openings (4)
30 When making a speech, restrain language (4)



LISTENER CROSSWORD No 3379

In association with CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS

NAME ....
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Cut out and send the completed crossword and coupon above to The Listener Crossword No 3379, 63 Green Lane, St Albans, Hertfordshire AL3 6HE. Entries must be received by Thursday, October 24.

The winner will receive: **The Cambridge Encyclopedia**, the most up-to-date and comprehensive one-volume encyclopedia available, with more than 36,000 entries; **The Cambridge Encyclopedia of the English Language**, a highly illustrated format embracing every aspect of the English language in one volume; and **The Cambridge Guide to Literature**, covering all the leading writers and movements in literature written in English up to the present. Two runners-up will receive **The Cambridge Guide to Literature.**

THE CAMBRIDGE ENCYCLOPEDIA

Cambridge University Press, the oldest printing and publishing house in the world, issues about 1,500 new publications in more than 190 countries each year, encompassing virtually every aspect seriously studied in the English-speaking world.

Solution to No 3376: Grand Slam 2 by Phil Brindall

NORTH

	S	CQ	D	S	D	S	H	S	S	H	H	H	H	
C	C	E	A	R	D	S	H	S	E	R	F	A	S	S
CA	A	Q	U	E	C	N	A	E	S	E	H	P	C	C
D	S	C	R	D	O	O	P	E	S	C	O	R	A	C
C	B	L	A	S	C	T	E	R	S	H	G	I	H	S
D	O	D	D	I	C	T	P	I	E	C	E	C	R	C
C	C	R	E	P	I	Q	U	E	N	E	Y	H	S	S
WEST D	T	E	A	S	D	E	R	D	C	E	S	O	D	C EAST
C	I	D	C	E	A	S	A	N	E	S	H	T	A	S
D	A	D	D	E	N	D	D	E	C	H	T	A	E	C
CJ	M	I	C	J	D	S	K	Y	A	U	Q	H	A	H
D	D	C	A	S	Q	U	E	S	I	J	A	H	H	H
D	A	D	J	A	R	E	L	B	H	A	T	A	H	H
D	S	K	Y	J	A	D	C	K	D	H	E	K	A	H
	SA	CK	DJ	SJ	DQ	SQ	DK	SK	DA	HJ	HQ	HK	HA	

SOUTH

1 (a) caboc
(b) afresh
(c) admit
(d) eards
2 (a) quena
(b) eld
(c) phese
(d) didder
3 (a) scroop
(b) aurae
(c) arose
(d) yacca
4 (a) high
(b) ajee
(c) blaster
(d) redips
5 (a) odic
(b) coccid
(c) receipt
(d) arna
6 (a) hyen
(b) Deus det
(c) repique
(d) not
7 (a) teaser
(b) ape
(c) dosed
(d) clear up
8 (a) Athena
(b) by-end
(c) ideas
(d) eerie
9 (a) addend
(b) essence
(c) eathe
(d) hic
10 (a) aqua
(b) hause
(c) mid-sky
(d) recce
11 (a) casques
(b) fogey
(c) haji
(d) etats
12 (a) ajar
(b) apricot
(c) hatable
(d) aha
13 (a) skyjack
(b) scars
(c) aked
(d) ahead

The winner is J. Ruff of Eastleigh, Hampshire.
The two runners-up are I. Spoors of Newcastle-upon-Tyne and S. Anstead of Peterborough

FLORA BRITANNICA PART THREE: CUISINE SAUVAGE

In part three of *Flora Britannica*, **Richard Mabey's** definitive new guide to Britain's natural beauty, a wealth of wild food and how best to make use of it

RAW MATERIAL FOR CREATIVE COOKS

Since the mid-1970s foraging for wild plant foods has become almost as common in Britain as on the Continent. Even mushroom-hunting has ceased to be regarded as an outlandish and dangerous eccentricity, and you must be out very early in British woods these days to be sure of getting your share of the first ceps and chanterelles.

Service tree berries: a little known fruit

From the late 1980s wild plants have also begun to make a perceptible impact on the commercial food business. In France, which has rather more raw materials at its disposal, there is a distinct school known as *cuisine sauvage*. And in Britain it is now not uncommon to find samphire, nettle, dandelions, bittercress, borage, wild strawberries, bilberries and ramsoms (wild garlic) served in some form or other in both smart metropolitan restaurants and local pubs. They are no longer regarded simply as rough peasant foods but are being used as ingredients for modern styles of cooking: wild herbs and fruits flavouring oils and vinegars (and even Danish-style schnapps): spring greens — garlic mustard, nettle, sorrel — stir-fried; flowers added to salads.

A contribution from a Hampshire woman of American ancestry illustrates the inventiveness of the modern approach to wild foods: "I take so many of these foods for granted that I often forget that many people don't eat such things as dandelion pasta, nettle gnocchi or wild garlic and cheese soup. I guard any dandelion greens that spring up in my garden with as much enthusiasm as some look after their most prized tomato plants. My latest invention is to chop a load of assorted greens I've gathered, sauté them with garlic and onion, fold in ricotta cheese, some fine bread crumbs and an egg and use this as a stuffing for pasta shells or home-made ravioli . . .

"My grandmother's cousin, Amber, had all her workmates gathered round the bench in the mill one day to sample her dandelion and mozzarella pie. She had layered cooked dandelion greens, cheese, sliced black olives and a little tomato sauce, made with garlic, into flaky pastry and baked it into a pasty. It became her favourite lunchbox treat . . .

"Have you ever had pickled greens? They are wonderful. Mustard greens, turnip greens, wild greens, the patient and persistent dandelion greens — all potted-up in a spiced, slightly sweet vinegar. They make a cheese sandwich sing."

NATURAL RECIPES WITH A BIT OF SPIRIT

■ **Blackthorn** (sloe)

This is an abundant shrub of hedges, scrub and open woodland. Sloe gin is made by gathering sloes in late September or October, pricking them, half filling a bottle with them, adding a few spoonfuls of sugar and covering with gin. The almond-flavoured liqueur is ready to drink by Christmas, but improves with age. One contributor wrote in to say: "As a by-product, the gin-soaked sloes can be dipped into melted chocolate, which is then allowed to set."

■ **Bramble** or **Blackberry**

More than 400 microspecies have been recognised in Britain, each one differing subtly in fruiting time, size, texture and taste. Recipes are legion: old — such as blackberry crowdie, made with toasted oats, cream and rum — and modern — blackberry vinegar, with the berries marinated with sugar in white vinegar and served with grilled goat's cheese. The most delicate is a junket, made by squeezing the juice from ripe berries and allowing it to set in a bowl in a warm room. The result: pure essence of blackberry.

Japanese knotweed can be used in jams and pies

■ **Common nettle**

This needs soils rich in phosphates, which is why it has flourished in the wake of human and agricultural colonisation. The Romans ate nettles as well as manuring them. Ambrose Heath, in his *Kitchen Front Recipes and Hints* (1941), had extravagant praise for both nettle and dandelion leaves: "A poached egg on a bed of dandelion or nettle purée covered with cheese sauce is an almost perfect meal, containing all the foods which we are told to eat: body-building, protective and energising." The chef Anton Mosimann blends his with fromage blanc, new potatoes and nutmeg into a "nettle nouvelle".

■ ***Crab apple***

The true wild crab is a scarce tree of old hedges and woods. Crab apples are small, hard and sour, but make a good pickle, a pectin-rich base for jams, and the best of all wild fruit jellies, ranging in colour from yellow to deep pink. They can also be roasted and served with meat or added to warmed ale and punches.

■ **Dandelions**

These are now much more familiar to British cooks. The traditional French dish *pissenlit au lard* (fried bacon scraps and croutons served on a dandelion salad) is found increasingly on menus. The flowers can be added to dandelion salads and provide a welcome dash of colour and a soft, honey-flavour. But they are most usually gathered for making dandelion wine.

■ **Elder**

It is hard to understand how this mangy and foul-smelling shrub was once regarded as one of the most magically *powerful of plants. The principal* use for the flowers and *berries is as food. Elder*flower fritters are made by *dipping the freshly opened* umbels in batter and frying for a few minutes. One contributor wrote: "I like to eat, in effect, the flowers and berries at the same time. To do this I make a sorbet using the flowers and serve some with the last of the sorbet made from the berries during the previous autumn." The berries also make a rich, dark wine, a "rob" for sore throats, and are an ingredient of "hedgerow jam".

■ **Garlic mustard** or ***Jack-by-the-hedge***

An abundant herb of hedgebanks and woods, smelling mildly of garlic. Its nettle-shaped leaves can be picked from September until late spring. It has long been used as a flavouring: in sauces for fish and lamb, and with spring salads.

■ **Horseradish**

This is a common perennial of waste ground and road*sides in England, though* scarce in Scotland. There are all manner of recipes for turning the grated root into sauces but none to match the formula of the flamboyant 19th-century chef Alexis Soyer. It is called, with some justification, "The Universal Devil's Mixture": "Put in a bowl a good tablespoonful of Durham mustard . . . mix with four tablespoonfuls of Chilli vinegar. Add to it a tablespoonful of grated horseradish, two bruised *shallots, teaspoonful of salt,* half ditto of Cayenne, ditto of black pepper, and one of pounded sugar, two teaspoonfuls of chopped chillies, if handy. Add the yolks of two raw eggs. Take a paste brush and, after having slightly seasoned each piece [of meat] with salt, rub over each piece with the same, probing some into the incisions. First broil slowly and then the last few minutes as near as possible to the Pandemonium fire."

■ **Japanese knotweed**

This is now officially regarded as the most per*nicious weed in Britain.* Encouragingly, the habit of *eating the young shoots* (which are used as a vegetable in Japan) has begun to spread. It was first intro*duced by Euell Gibbons, the* pioneer writer on American *wild foods, in the 1960s.* In his classic *Stalking the Wild Asparagus*, he calls it "a combination fruit-vegetable" and stresses that, although it may *look* like an asparagus when it first appears, it has a tart taste more like sorrel or rhubarb (members of the same family), and he recommends making jam or pies from the shoots when they are no more than a foot tall. People *in Wales* have discovered knotweed's culinary *potential. In parts of Dyfed*, the young shoots and leaves are cooked like *spinach*.

■ **Juniper**

This provides the essential *flavouring for gin. But the* berries are now mostly im*ported from eastern Europe.* Home-grown fruits, however, are *increasingly* used as a flavouring, especially *with game. A contributor* from Lancashire writes: "The local limestone hill, Arnside Knott, provides us with juniper berries to cook with venison. Used whole they give a bitter, crunchy bite to savouries."

■ **Marsh samphire** (common glasswort)

Many people's introduction to the lesser-known reaches of wild-food gathering. It occurs all around the coast of *Britain, but East Anglia is* where it is best known and *most widely used.* North Norfolk is where I first made *its acquaintance in the 1960s*, as a shiny, succulent plant, *rather like a plump, jointed* pipe-cleaner, which appear*ed on bare mud and the* edges of creeks from late *May onwards.* I soon learnt that picking shouldn't begin *before the longest day, and* that the healthiest specimens *were those "washed by every* tide". The stems can be eaten raw as a crisp and salty salad plant, or boiled briefly, like *thin asparagus, and* dipped in molten butter or warm oil. They are eaten by holding the root end and drawing the stems between the teeth, to strip the flesh off the central spine. Samphire will keep for a few days, provided it is dry.

■ ***Ramsons*** **or wild garlic**

These grow in similar situations to bluebells, and often with them. Despite their strong smell *en masse*, *ramsons* are *surprisingly* mild to eat. The broad leaf-blades are used in salads, stews and soups. After I introduced the Italian owner of the village pub at the Lee, Buckinghamshire, to his *local colonies,* he added a flurry of wild garlic im*provisations to his* Tuscan menu: olive oil in which *ramsons* leaves had been steeped; ramsons salads; and *ramsons leaves chopped* and added, instead of basil, to a cold tomato sauce for pasta.

■ **Sea beet**

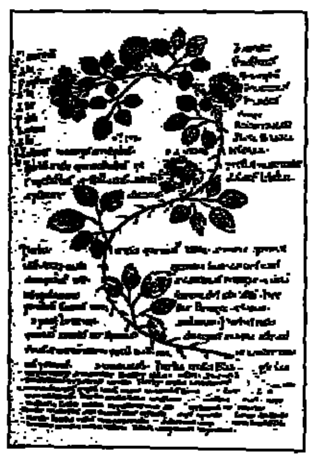
A large-leafed, straggly perennial which grows on sea walls, shingle and waste ground on most parts of the coast. The leaves are tangy and substantial cooked as spinach, and one of the most *popular* of wild vegetables.

■ **Sorrel**

This is common on road *verges and riverbanks* and in grassland. The leaves are *increasingly used* in salads, soups and sauces for fish. A *woman from the* Baltic serves sorrel soup with hard-boiled egg, *just as spinach* soup is served in eastern Europe. *But the taste of* cooked sorrel is closer to *rhubarb than spinach.* A recipe from the 1930s exploits *this fruitiness by using the* leaves in a turnover as a *substitute for apple.*

■ **Sweet chestnut**

This was almost certainly *one of the few species that* was introduced to Britain by the *Romans. Modern* recipes for cooked wild chestnuts include soup, vanilla-flavoured spread and a stuffing which is then battered and fried as croquettes.



The bramble in a drawing from the 11th century

■ **Watercress**

This is the only British native plant which has passed into *large-scale* commercial cultivation scarcely altered from *its wild state.* Growing it commercially in beds avoids the danger of picking up larvae of the fluke, *Fasciola hepatica, which* attacks and severely damages the livers of sheep and cattle, and can do the same to humans. The only way to *ensure you* are eating fluke-free cresses is to pick plants growing in fast-flowing, clean water (pref*erably over chalk) and not* from the banks; and, to be *doubly sure, turn them into* soups: cooking kills all *stages of the fluke.*

■ **Wild cherry**

This is arguably the most seasonally ornamental of our woodland trees. The fruits can be *bitter,* but are *edible* from late July. They are also *used for cherry brandy,* following a recipe similar to that for sloe gin (see above).

■ **Wild Plums**

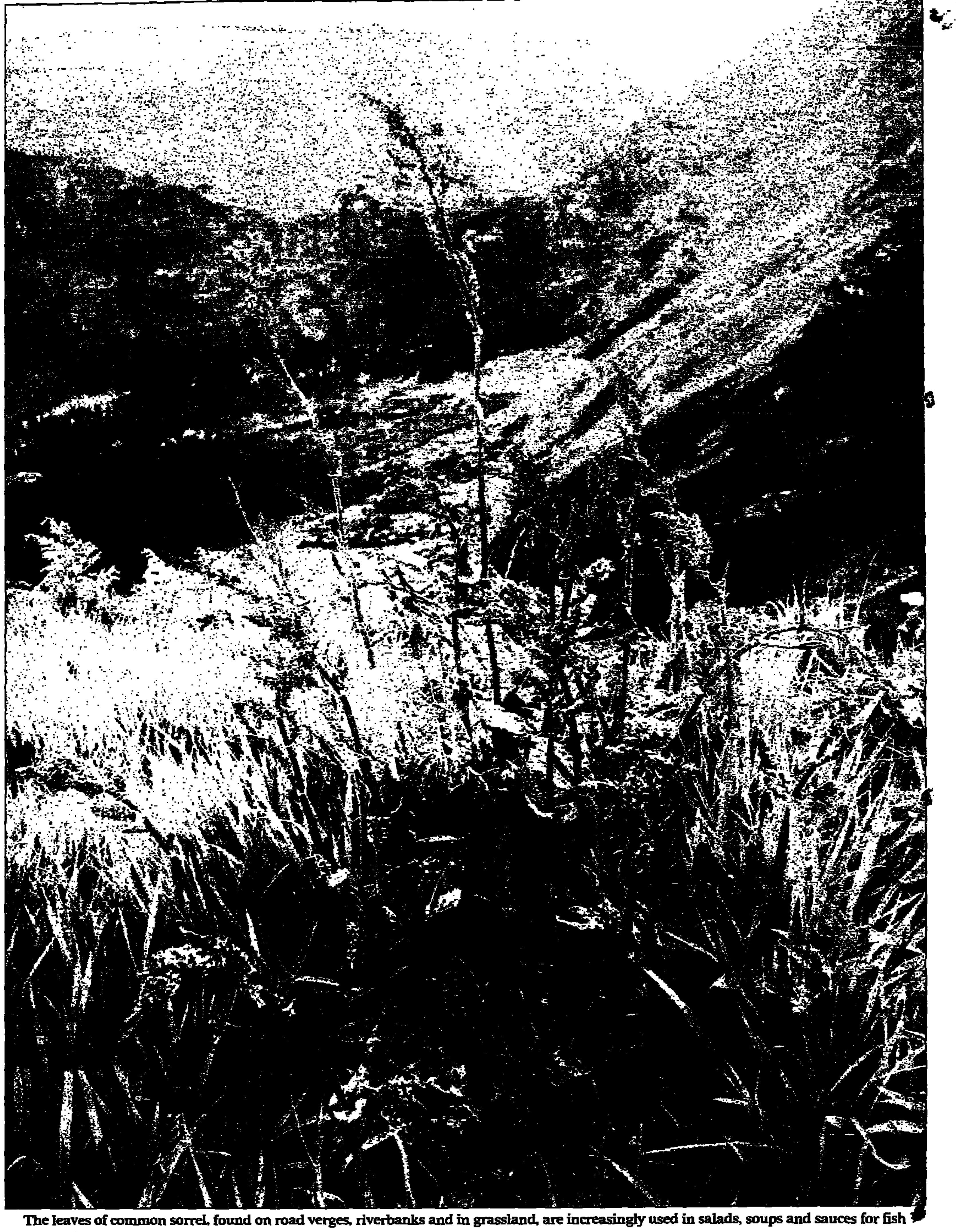
One of the best wild foods *and a huge genetic reservoir.* They can be used instead of cultivated damsons and greengages in pies and jams, or as sweeter *substitutes for* sloes in alcoholic cordials. An old recipe is for damson cheese, a thick, sugary jelly *made from strained damson* pulp, which was served as a condiment with cold meats.

Wild service tree

■ This is one of the most local and least *known* of our native trees. The fruits were a Neolithic staple, gained enough popularity at one time for houses, farms and pubs to be named after them, and then passed into obscurity, as ancient woodland habitats were destroyed. The brown berries, round or pear-shaped, are hard and bitter at first, but as the autumn progresses (or once they are picked and taken indoors) they begin to "blet" and turn soft and very sweet. The taste has hints of apricot, sultana, overripe damson and tamarind.

● *Edited extracts from* Flora Britannica *published by Sinclair-Stevenson at £30.* *© 1966 Richard Mabey.*

GARETH LOVETT JONES



The leaves of common sorrel, found on road verges, riverbanks and in grassland, are increasingly used in salads, soups and sauces for fish

BOB GIBBONS

Elder flowers can be eaten straight off the bush or in fritters

NEXT WEEK

THE FLOWERING STARS OF BRITAIN'S WILD BEAUTY

FLORA BRITANNICA BOOK OFFER. PAGE 5

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[illegible]

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[illegible]

[illegible] عن الأصل

هكذا في الأصل

On good terms: a sound policy can keep down vets' bills and make pets' lives easier

Eye on costs of family pets

Sarah Jones

compares

insurance

For those of us who have two dogs, three cats and any number of budgies, gerbils, mice, snakes, tortoises, guinea pigs and rabbits, a new form of pet insurance is available. All your pets can be insured for a single premium of just £36 a year.

While that is a competitive rate in an expensive market, Veterinary Insurance Protection only covers vets' bills arising from accidental injury. And claims are limited to £500 per incident for dogs and cats, £250 for other family pets. For additional cats or dogs over the numbers stated above there is a further £8.50 premium per animal.

VIP, run by Bankers Insurance, claims that for too long pet insurance has been pedigree-led, reflected in the premiums. Don Strejeck, managing director, says: "We believe a different and far larger market is out there — families whose pets are an integral part of their homes, regardless of cost, pedigree or breeding." The policy criteria have been based on "what a *family* would *normally* expect to pay their vet a year for accidental injuries, rather than the maximum to be milked from expensive, traditional pet policies."

VIP joins a crowded market, with at least 20 providers. The largest is Pet Plan, sold by its founder Patsy Bloom and David Simpson for £32.5 million to Cornhill this year. Pet Plan is not impressed with VIP. Richard Barrett, sales and marketing director, says: "It's a joke only covering for an accident. We pay out very few claims for dogs in road accidents; it's more likely to be an illness. More cats do have accidents, but again we pay out more for illness. Goodness knows what sort of accident they expect a gerbil to suffer."

Pet Plan's cover for £1,000 of vets' fees arising from accident or illness costs £72 a year for a mongrel, £105 for a pedigree dog, £47 for a cat.

Meanwhile, PAWS Pet Insurance has this month introduced a premium discount for moggies and mongrels because crossbreeds have fewer health problems. Basic cover costs £61.16 a year for cats and £101.45 for dogs.

Medical treatment for pets does not come cheap. The Association of British Insurers quotes:

☐ £400 to remove a lump from throat of a boxer dog

☐ £167 to remove Rod Stewart tape swallowed by a dog

☐ £300 for treating cat hit by a milk float

☐ £1,200 for replacing hip of a German shepherd dog.

Even so, only 12 per cent of the UK's 6.8 million dogs and 3 per cent of its 7.2 million cats are insured.

WEEKEND MONEY LETTERS

Norwich Union demutualisation argument not borne out elsewhere

From Mr P. Carroll

Sir, Allan Bridgewater, Group Chief Executive of the Norwich Union, is seeking to persuade us that the plans to become a stock company are required for a mutual "to meet their customers' needs in a changing world".

A particular aim of the Norwich Union's plans are to "transfer ownership of the general insurance businesses from the life fund".

In fact, however, the most successful general insurance company, and by a wide margin, in the United States has been State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance, a mutual as the name implies. Their mutual status has been a contributing factor to their success as all their competitors and their policyholders are well aware. And their dominance of the market has become more pronounced as new technology and communication systems have been introduced in recent years.

It is a myth currently being propagated in the UK that the new European single market for general insurance favours stock companies against mutuals. In France, in recent years the mutuals have increased their market share in general insurance, especially in motor and personal lines, and in Spain the leading company, MAPRE, is a mutual.

Here in the UK there will be some losers among those Norwich Union with-profits life policyholders and holders of personal pensions who are persuaded to accept the promised new shares. It is reasonable to anticipate that 10 per cent of future bonuses, which are all now distributed to the policyholders, will in future be allocated instead to the new shareholders.

Allan Bridgewater does not inform us of the likelihood of the Norwich Union dropping down the performance tables of maturing endowments as the allocation of profits to shareholders takes its toll in future years. Few stock companies appear in the top ten of best-paying life offices for any term or class of life endowment.

Whereas the large majority of life insurers transacting business are stock companies, it is the leading mutuals who have consistently paid best over the years.

Yours faithfully,
PATRICK CARROLL,
Risk Research Services
35 Canonbury Road,
London, N1.

Banking on a fall in service standards

From Mrs L. M. Riley

Sir, I have been a customer of the National Westminster Bank since opening an account as a student, over ten years ago. Recently, I was asked to comment in a questionnaire on the standard of service I had received from my branch in the last six months. The form offered no room to express any real opinions.

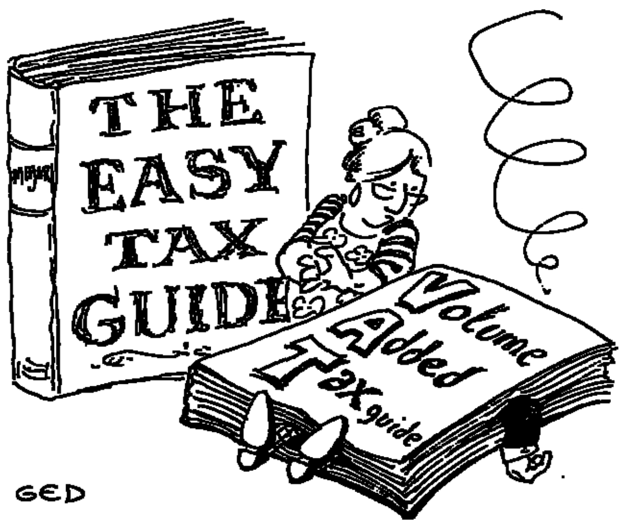
The standards of all branches have slumped over the past years. Most branches find it impossible to carry out the smallest task without error and large queues for service appear inevitable.

I do not blame the staff for this. I blame the company for the overwhelming greed which ensures that they cut staff to the bone and insist on those remaining working at a breakneck speed to cover the jobs of those who have been made redundant. The staff often work for more than seven hours without a break and are rewarded with derisory pay rises.

Morale is low and those who try to work to achieve the standards which were offered years ago, find themselves cracking under the stress.

I do not feel inclined to stay with a bank which shows such a lack of care. I can only assume it treats its shareholders in a better manner than it treats its staff and customers.

Yours faithfully,
L. RILEY,
5 Main Street,
Weston-on-Trent, Derbyshire.



Double trouble from tax guide

From Mr M. Plumbe

Sir, The *Tolley's Income Tax Guide* for 1992-93 had 706 pages; that for 1996-97 has 1,060 pages. That's a 50 per cent increase in tax law in just four years. So much for a government "committed to simplification".

Yours sincerely,
MICHAEL PLUMBE,
104 Drive Mansions,
London, SW6.

CGT ALLOWANCES — AUGUST 1996

The indexed rise for calculating the indexation allowance on assets disposed of in August 1996

Month purchased	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989
January	-	0.853	0.763	0.679	0.591	0.531	0.482	0.379
February	-	0.845	0.756	0.665	0.585	0.525	0.476	0.369
March	0.927	0.842	0.750	0.650	0.583	0.522	0.471	0.363
April	0.889	0.816	0.727	0.615	0.568	0.504	0.447	0.339
May	0.876	0.809	0.721	0.608	0.565	0.502	0.442	0.331
June	0.870	0.805	0.716	0.605	0.566	0.502	0.436	0.327
July	0.870	0.795	0.718	0.608	0.570	0.504	0.435	0.326
August	0.869	0.787	0.702	0.603	0.565	0.500	0.419	0.322
September	0.870	0.779	0.699	0.604	0.557	0.495	0.412	0.313
October	0.861	0.773	0.689	0.602	0.555	0.488	0.398	0.303
November	0.852	0.767	0.683	0.596	0.542	0.481	0.392	0.292
December	0.856	0.762	0.685	0.594	0.537	0.482	0.388	0.289

Month purchased	1990	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996
January	0.281	0.176	0.129	0.110	0.084	0.049	0.019
February	0.274	0.170	0.123	0.103	0.077	0.042	0.015
March	0.261	0.165	0.120	0.099	0.074	0.038	0.011
April	0.224	0.150	0.103	0.089	0.062	0.028	0.003
May	0.213	0.147	0.099	0.085	0.058	0.023	0.001
June	0.208	0.142	0.099	0.086	0.058	0.022	0.001
July	0.207	0.144	0.103	0.088	0.063	0.027	0.005
August	0.195	0.142	0.102	0.084	0.058	0.021	
September	0.184	0.137	0.098	0.079	0.056	0.017	
October	0.175	0.133	0.094	0.080	0.054	0.022	
November	0.178	0.129	0.096	0.081	0.054	0.022	
December	0.179	0.128	0.100	0.079	0.049	0.016	

The RI month for disposals by individuals on or after April 6, 1985 (April 1, 1985 for companies) is the month in which the allowable expenditure was incurred, or March 1982 where the expenditure was incurred before that month.

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Please complete this coupon and send it to Kensington Mortgage Company, FREEPOST, LON 3379, London W8 4BR.

Name ______ TT05
Address ______
______ Postcode ______
Telephone ______ Loan amount required £ ______

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The Coventry's new Fixed Rate Bond (Issue 10) gives you one of the highest rates of interest available, guaranteed until 30th November 1999.

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Coventry Building Society, Economic House, PO Box 9, High Street, Coventry CV1 5QN.

* Interest rate on annual interest version is 7.30% gross p.a. (5.84% net p.a.). Interest rate on monthly interest version is 7.05% gross p.a. (5.64% net p.a.). Interest on the annual interest version will be paid on 30th November, commencing 30th November 1997. Interest will be paid net of the lower rate of tax (currently 20%) or, subject to the required certification, gross. Withdrawals or early closure are subject to a charge equivalent to 180 days' interest on the amount withdrawn. Information correct at time of going to press.

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Amount you invest	Annual interest % †Gross p.a.	Annual interest % *Net p.a.	Monthly interest % †Gross p.a.	Monthly interest % *Net p.a.
£5,000-£250,000	6.75	5.40	6.55	5.24

Please tick appropriate box: I/We enclose a cheque for £______ (min £5000) made payable to Derbyshire Building Society, to be invested in the Derbyshire Peak Bond Issue 5 account ☐.
Please send further details of The Derbyshire Peak Bond Issue 5 account ☐.

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Address: ______
Postcode: ______ Tel: ______
Signature(s): ______

Please note. We will send you an investment account opening form when acknowledging your cheque.
Post to: Derbyshire Building Society, Freepost, Duffield Hall, Duffield, Derby, DE56 9BR. (NB Freepost may take upto 3 working days. For a faster delivery you may wish to use first class post.)
TT12/10

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Derbyshire Building Society, Duffield Hall, Duffield, DERBY DE56 1AG.

†Interest will be payable net (after deduction of income tax at the rate prescribed by law. It will be payable gross (without deduction) where you are able to provide us with an appropriate completed form complying with Inland Revenue regulations. If the tax deducted is greater than your tax liability, you can claim repayment of tax from the Inland Revenue. If you pay income tax only at the basic or lower rate, you will have no more tax to pay on the interest. If you are a higher rate taxpayer you will have to pay additional tax on the interest to cover the difference between the tax deducted and the higher rate tax due. *The net rate is an illustrative rate only allowing for deduction of income tax assuming continuation of the current prescribed rate of 20%. Maximum investment £250,000 in any one account and £250,000 for any one investor. No additional investments may be made to the account. Further investments may however be made by opening a new account subject to the account terms (provided the issue is still available). Term runs to 30 November 1998 with interest (calculated daily from the day following the date of investment) payable annually on the 30 November commencing 1997, or monthly at investor's option. Monthly interest cannot be credited to the account. Withdrawals will be allowed only (i) on the death of an account holder or (ii) with a penalty equal to 180 days loss of interest on the amount withdrawn, at the interest rate applying to the account, even if this means we have to take money out of your account. Please note Peak Bond 5 is a share account investment with Derbyshire Building Society. The Society may elect not to open an account until satisfied about the identity of the proposed investor. Full details are available from Derbyshire Building Society, Duffield Hall, Duffield, Derby DE56 1AG. Any enquiries about the account may be made during normal office hours on 01332 841000.

THE TIMES MONEY INFORMATION SERVICE

Steps to put the family in order

Only one in three adults has made a proper will — the remaining population leave families a legal and financial dilemma when they die. Make a Will Week (October 14-20), organised by the Law Society, aims to raise awareness of the importance of preparing a will and updating it regularly. Solicitors in England and Wales will offer their services, with many providing special rates.

☐ The Association of Solicitor Investment Managers (ASIM) emphasises the need to seek a solicitor's advice to avoid the problems if you die intestate. Free directory of ASIM member firms from: 01892 870065.

☐ According to NatWest Investments, 2.5 million cohabitees could be in real danger of having their estate divided against their wishes in the absence of a will. Call 0800 722 733 for a copy of NatWest's updated guide and video, *How to Make a Will*.

☐ Scottish Widows has produced the latest in a series of financial files, *The Will File*, which provides a useful checklist to drawing up a will, revoking or making changes to it. Call 0345 678910 .

By making a will, you can contribute to charities. The British Red Cross has published a booklet, *Most precious gift of all — a guide to wills and legacies*. From: British Red Cross, 9 Grosvenor Crescent, London SW1X 7EJ.

☐ Homeowners can make large savings on their household insurance and help a leading childcare charity thanks to a new scheme. The Children's Society Insurance Policy offers special rates and discounts for security devices. Quote Line: 0345 413171.

☐ If you are unsure about buying or selling a house, Barclays Mortgages has produced two free video guides for first-time buyers and home movers. Tips include how much to offer and the best time to sell. Call 0800 400121.

☐ What are Peps, who can invest in them and how I can convert my existing investments into a Pep are some of the questions answered in a new 20-page booklet, *Plain Language Guide to Peps*. Price £2.40 per copy from PEPMA, Freepost, SWB 30086, Exeter EX1 1AZ.

LIZANNE ROSE

GUARANTEED INCOME BONDS

ANNUAL INCOME

Rates as at October 10, 1996

	Investment (£)	Company	Standard Rate (%)
1 Year			
	5,000	AIG Life	4.90
	10,000	AIG Life	5.00
	20,000	AIG Life	5.15
	50,000	AIG Life	5.25
2 Years			
	1,000	Premium Life	4.55
	3,000	ITT Lon & Edin	5.70
3 Years			
	1,000	Premium Life	4.90
	3,000	ITT Lon & Edin	6.10
4 Years			
	1,000	Premium Life	5.20
	3,000	ITT Lon & Edin	6.35
5 Years			
	1,000	Premium Life	5.45
	3,000	ITT Lon & Edin	6.55

Source: Chamberlain de Broë 0171-434 4222. Net rates. Income and capital guaranteed. Early surrender. Terms vary. Monthly income may be available.

SAVERS' BEST BUYS

INSTANT ACCESS ACCOUNTS	Account	Notice of term	Deposit	Rate	Interest paid
Teachers' BS 01202 887171	Bullion	Instant	£500	4.80	½Yly
Alliance & Leic BS 0645 228858	Instnt Direct	Postal	£5,000	5.40	Yly
Bristol & West BS 0800 901109	Instnt Postal	Postal	£10,000	5.85	Yly
Bristol & West BS 0800 901109	Instnt Postal	Postal	£25,000	6.05	Yly

NOTICE ACCOUNTS & BONDS	Account	Notice of term	Deposit	Rate	Interest paid
Nottingham BS 0115 9564422	Direct Reserve	20 day p	£2,500	6.10	Yly
Nottingham BS 0115 9564422	Direct Reserve	20 day p	£25,000	6.40	Yly
Greenwich BS 0181 858 8212	One Yr Term Shr	1 year	£2,500	6.50	Yly
Yorkshire BS 0800 378836	Fxd Rate Bond	31.03.98	£5,000	6.60	F/OM

FIRST TESSAS (TAX FREE)	Account	Notice of term	Deposit	Rate	Interest paid
NatWest Bank 0800 200400	Fixed rate	5 year	£5,000	7.45	F/Yly
Sun Banking Corp 01438 744505	Fixed rate	5 year	£8,575	7.30	F/Yly
Birmingham Midshires 0645 720721		5 year	£1,000	7.00	Yly
Principality BS 01222 344188		5 year	£500	6.80	Yly

CREDIT CARDS BEST BUYS

CREDIT CARDS	Card type	Interest per month	APR%	Fee per annum
Co-operative Bank 0800 109000	Advantage Visa	0.64%NC	7.90%N	Nil
Robert Fleming/S&P 0800 829024	MasterCard/Visa	0.90%C	11.20%	Nil
RB of Scotland 01702 349393	Visa/WorldwideM	0.935%N	12.90%N	£10

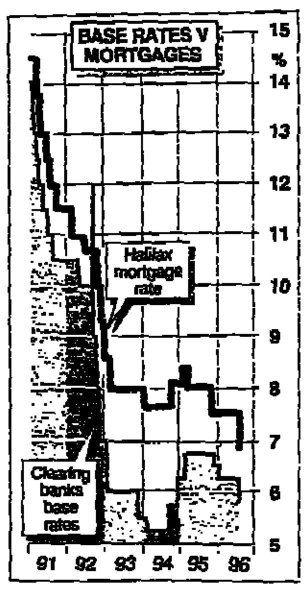
PERSONAL LOANS BEST BUYS

PERSONAL LOANS	APR	Monthly payment on £3,000 for 3yrs with insurance	no insurance
Direct Line 0141 248 9966	13.90%E	£112.86	£101.33
Alliance & Leic Grp 0116 2626262	14.80%	£114.93	£102.36
Midland 0800 180180	14.90%	£115.82	£102.49

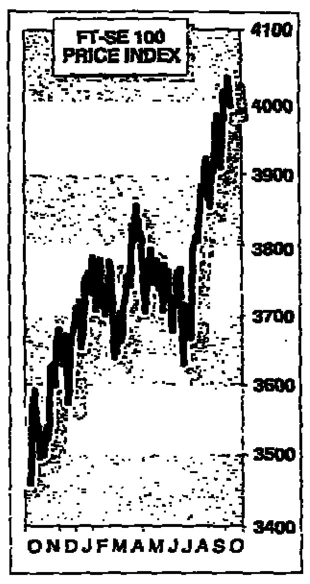
Nb. C = no interest free period, E = Available to comprehensive motor insurance policy holders over 22 years, F = Fixed Rate (all other rates variable), N = Introductory rate for a limited period, P = By Post only

* RATES SHOWN ARE GROSS AND SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT NOTICE
PLEASE CHECK RATES BEFORE INVESTING

Source: MoneyFacts, the Monthly Guide to Investment & Mortgage Rates (01692 500 677)



BASE RATES V MORTGAGES



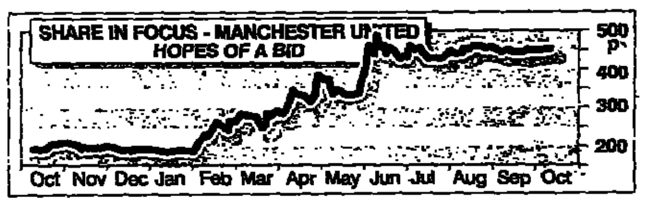
FT-SE 100 PRICE INDEX

PIBS

FIXED RATE	Gross coupon	Buying price	% Gross yield	Issue price	Minimum purchase amount
Birmingham Midshires	9.375%	104.19	8.988	100.17	1,000
Bradford & Bingley	11.625%	126.07	9.221	100.13	10,000
Bradford & Bingley	13.000%	142.06	9.151	100.20	10,000
Bristol & West	13.375%	146.66	9.120	100.34	1,000
Britannia	13.000%	141.44	9.191	100.42	1,000
Coventry	12.125%	133.51	9.054	100.75	1,000
First National	11.750%	124.70	9.422	100.25	10,000
Halifax	8.750%	98.70	9.865	100.62	50,000
Halifax	12.000%	131.59	9.854	100.28	50,000
Halifax	13.625%	152.05	9.961	100.00	50,000
Leeds & Holbeck	13.375%	147.54	9.065	100.23	1,000
Newcastle	10.750%	122.21	8.776	100.32	1,000
Newcastle	12.625%	143.02	8.827	100.45	1,000
Northern Rock	12.625%	143.44	8.802	100.14	1,000
Skipton	12.875%	142.07	9.063	100.48	1,000

FLOATING RATE	Gross coupon	Buying price	Issue price	Minimum purchase
Cheshire (28/09-27/03)	8.41563%	107.63	100.00	1,000
First Nat(20/09-20/03)	8.48750%	101.63	100.00	1,000

PIBS = Permanent interest-bearing shares
Source ABN AMRO Hoare Govett — 0171 601 0101



SHARE IN FOCUS - MANCHESTER UNITED
HOPES OF A BID

NATIONAL SAVINGS

	Gross rate	At tax rates 20%	40%	Min/maximum investment £	Notice	Contact
Ordinary A/c[1]	1.50	1.20	0.90	10-10,000**		0645 645000
Investment A/c*	4.75	3.80	2.85	20-500**	1mth	0645 645000
Income Bond*	6.00	4.80	3.60	2,000-25,000**	3mth	0645 645000
First Opt Bond	6.00	4.80	3.60	1,000-20,000**		0645 645000
43rd Issue Cert†	5.35			100-10,000	8day	0645 645000
Children's Bond†	6.75			25-1,000	1mth	0645 645000
Gen Ext Rate	3.51					0645 645000
Capital Bond	6.65	5.32	3.99	100-250,000	8day	0645 645000
9th Index Linked†	2.50			100-10,000	8day	0645 645000
Pensnrs Bond S3	7.00	5.60	4.20	500-50,000	60day	0645 645000

*¹ first £70 (£140 jt) of int tax free, inst accs for up to £100 ² Additional hldgs up to £20,000 for reinvested proceeds †Tax free *Rates gross and vble ‹Guaranteed when held for 5 years ⁴0.2% net bonus for £20,000+ ⁵£100,000 jt in addition to S1 and S2 holdings ⁶Taxable but paid in full ⁷£500-100,000 earn higher rates. **Tiered rates apply.*

PENSION ANNUITIES

All figures are the gross annual annuity (£100,000 purchase), guaranteed 5 years, paid monthly in advance

SINGLE LIFE (level ann)	Male: Age 60	Age 65	Age 70
Canada Lfe ....Level	£10,022	£11,192	£12,776
Equitable Lf..........Level	£10,277	£11,187	£12,381
General Accident Level	£10,027	£11,103	£12,569
Generali ....Level	£10,064	£11,095	£12,438
Sun Lf of Canada Level	£10,030	£11,066	£12,481

SINGLE LIFE	Female: Age 60	Age 65	Age 70
Prudential ....Level	£9,317	£10,066	£11,162
General Accident Level	£9,279	£10,053	£11,196
Sun Lf of Can.......Level	£9,296	£10,029	£11,113
Equitable Lf..........Level	£9,350	£10,027	£10,975
Generali ....Level	£9,172	£10,019	£11,193

JOINT LIFE, 2/3 WIDOWS (level annuity)	Male: Age 60 Female: Age 55	Age 65 Age 60	Age 70 Age 65
Equitable Lf..........Level	£9,046	£9,563	£10,276
General Accident Level	£8,916	£9,544	£10,458
Sun Lf of Can.......Level	£8,924	£9,492	£10,304
Prudential ....Level	£8,886	£9,474	£10,301
Generali ....Level	£8,853	£9,473	£10,329

Source: Annuity Direct (0171 588 9393)

Compiled by: Lizanne Rose

LARGER LENDERS

Lender	Interest rate %	Loan size	Max %	Notes
Building Societies				
Alliance & Leic 0181 742 0471	1.39	£200-300k	75	Disc of 5.6% until 1.8.97
Northern Rock 0800 591500	0.99	£100-150k	90	High equity dsc 6% to 1.10.97
Bristol & West 0800 608088	1.95	£15k+	90	1.95% to 31.7.97
Banks				
Bank of Ireland 01734 510100	0.99	£20-145k	95	6.25 disc 6 mth, 3% disc 6 months
Barclays Bank 0800 000929	3.49	£15-500k	95	3.50% discount for 12 months

LARGER LOANS

Lender	Interest rate %	Loan size	Max %	Notes
Building Societies				
Scarborough 0800 590547	0.05	to £250k	70	Rate fixed for 12 months.
Hinckley & Rugby 0800 774499	0.20	to £150k	70	Fixed for 1 yr.
Mansfield 01246 202055	0.39	£75-125k	90	6.35% disc-6mth 2%-6mth,1%-1 yr
Banks				
Bank of Ireland 01734 510100	0.99	£20-145k	95	6.25%dsc-6 mth 3% dsc-6 mth
Barclays 0800 000929	3.49	£15-500k	95	3.50% discount for 12 months

FIRST-TIME BUYERS

Lender	Interest rate %	Loan size	Max %	Notes
Building Societies				
Bristol & West 0800 608088	0.95	£15k+	95	6.04% disc 6 mnth then 1% disc-6mth
Lambeth 0171 928 1331	3.74	£15k+	95	3.25% disc for 12 months.
Newbury 01635 43676	4.24	£15-150k	95	2.50% discount for 12 months
Banks				
Bankofireland 01734 510100	0.99	£20-145k	95	6.25% disc 6 mths 3% disc 6 mths
TSB Bank 0500 758000	3.25	£15k+	95	3.74% disc for 12 months

Larger lenders, larger loans and first-time buyers tables supplied by Blay's Guides Ltd. *Further information:* Blay's Guides, 01753 880482.

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UNIT-LINKED INSURANCE INVESTMENTS

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
AEGON LIFE ASSURANCE				
Edinburgh Park, Edinburgh, EH12 9SE				
0131 339 9191				
Balanced	532.80	563.90	- 2.10	...
UK Equity	704.10	745.10	+ 0.10	...
Property	416.90	441.20	+ 0.30	...
Fixed Interest	372.40	394.10	+ 1.60	...
Money	268.00	283.70	+ 0.20	...
International	435.70	459.00	- 3.40	...
ABBEY LIFE				
Holdenhurst Road, Bournemouth				
BH8 8AL				
01202 292373				
Custodian S4	196.70	207.10	+ 0.20	
Ethical S4	161.70	170.30	+ 0.20	...
International S4	224.20	236.10	- 0.40	
Protected Gth S4	123.30	129.80		0
Asian Pacific	206.40	217.30	- 1.00	..
European S4	215.60	227.00	...	0
Prop Fd Ser 4	392.50	413.20	+ 0.20	...
Equity Ser 4	271.40	285.70	- 0.10	..
Man Ser 4	785.70	827.10	- 1.00	..
Conv Ser 4	352.10	370.70	+ 0.30	...
Money Ser 4	351.70	370.20	+ 0.30	...
Fixed Int Ser 4	393.10	413.80	- 1.40	...
American Ser 4	664.20	699.20	- 3.20	...
High Inc Ser 4	812.20	855.00	+ 2.30	...
Indexed Inv Ser 4	231.90	244.20	- 1.30	...
Japan Ser 4	338	355.80	- 3.90	...
ALBANY LIFE				
3 Darkes Lane, Potters Bar EN6 1AJ				
01707 42311				
Equity Fd Acc	1982.60	2086.90	- 0.30	..
European Fd Acc	482.40	507.80	+ 1.50	...
Fixed Int Acc	568.70	598.50	- 0.10	...
Gtd Money Acc	358.70	377.50	+ 0.30	...
Intl Managed Acc	760.30	800.30	- 5.60	...
Int Fxd Int Acc	376.70	396.50	- 0.30	...
Japan Fund	254.00	267.30	- 6.00	...
N American Acc	435.80	458.70	- 1.00	...
Prop Fd Acc	471.60	496.30	+ 0.80	..
Multiple Inv Acc	1244.80	1310.30	- 2.40	..
ALLIED DUNBAR ASSURANCE				
Swindon SN1 1EL				
01793 514514				
Fxd Int Dep Acc	401.90	423.10	+ 0.30	..
Equity Acc	1734.10	1825.40	+ 1.00	...
Property Acc	639.70	673.40	+ 0.60	..
Far East Acc	336.70	354.50	- 2.00	..
Managed Capital	622.60	655.40	+ 0.20	...
-do- Acc	1318.50	1387.90	- 0.60	...
Overseas Acc	1193.30	1256.20	+ 7.50	..
Gilt Edged Acc	549.30	578.30	- 0.50	..
Amer Equity Acc	1087.50	1144.80	- 0.40	..
Amer Man Acc	456.60	480.70	..	..
Amer Prop Acc	119.30	125.60	- 0.40	..
Distribution Bonds	25.20	26.60	...	...
AXA EQUITY & LAW LIFE ASSURANCE				
Amersham Road, High Wycombe, Bucks				
01494 463463				
Reserve Ser 6	177.90	187.20	+ 0.40	...
Balced Ser 6	855.10	900.10	- 1.10	...
Opportunity Ser 6	197.60	208.00	- 0.50	..
Distribution Ser 6	104.30	109.70	+ 0.40	6.93
UK Equities Ser 6	£12.39	£13.04	+ 8.60	...
Higher Inc Ser 6	£12.41	£13.07	+ 5.70	..
North Amer Ser 6	631.00	664.20	- 4.40	...
Far East Ser 6	590.10	621.10	- 8.10	...
Europe Ser 6	480.90	506.20	- 0.50	...
Intnl Ser 6	690.90	727.30	- 3.60	...
Property Ser 6	598.10	629.50	- 0.90	...
Fixed Int Ser 6	498.60	524.80	+ 4.20	..
Ind-Lnkd Sec S6	200.70	211.30	+ 1.30	..
Gteed Dep Ser 6	319.80	336.60	+ 0.30	...
BARCLAYS LIFE				
252 Romford Road, London E7 9JB				
0181 534 5544				
Equity Acc	1058.70	1114.50	- 3.00	...
-do- Initial	655.80	690.40	- 1.90	..
Gilt Edged Acc	437.10	460.20	+ 1.20	..
-do- Initial	273.20	287.60	+ 0.80	..
International Acc	464.50	489.00	- 4.20	..
-do- Initial	288.40	303.60	- 2.60	.
Managed Acc	629.20	662.40	- 0.40	..
-do- Initial	392.00	412.70	- 0.30	..
Money Acc	312.50	329.00	+ 0.30	..
Property Acc	314.40	331.00	- 0.30	..
-do- Initial	194.70	205.00	+ 0.10	..
America Acc	371.30	390.90	- 0.90	..
Far East Gwth	252.00	266.30	+ 1.70	..
Financial Acc	463.80	488.30	- 2.90	.
500 Accum	529.20	557.10	- 2.40	..
Japan Acc	284.60	299.60	- 4.80	..
Income Acc	626.10	659.10	+ 4.00	..
Leisure Acc	329.90	347.30	+ 1.40	..
Special Sits Acc	320.10	337.00	+ 1.90	..
Unit Tech Acc	188.20	198.20	- 0.30	...
BLACK HORSE LIFE				
Mountbatten House, Chatham, Kent ME4 4JF				
01634 834000				
The Managed Fd	963.36	963.36	- 3.57	...
Income Fund	902.39	949.89	- 4.47	...
Extra Income	813.32	856.03	- 2.99	...
Worldwide Gth	558.22	587.60	- 5.10	..
Balanced Fund	818.37	861.45	- 4.88	...
Smllr Cos Recov	£10.45	£11.00	- 5.21	...
N Amer & Genrl	464.49	488.94	- 3.15	...
Pacific Basin	438.74	461.84	- 6.20	.
German Growth	260.80	274.53	+ 0.33	...
Japan Growth	179.03	188.46	- 3.00	...
The UK Gilt Fd	264.27	278.18	- 1.58	...
Contl Euro Gth	168.98	177.88	+ 0.06	...
Property Fund	419.81	441.91	+ 0.32	...
Fixed Interest	365.58	384.83	+ 1.23	...
Cash Fund	303.62	319.82	- 0.23	...
Managed Inv	576.03	606.35	- 2.36	...
Nth Amer Recov	335.48	353.14	- 3.23	...
Abtrust Fund				
Managed Gth	543.37	571.97	- 1.99	..
BRITANNIA				
50 Bothwell St, Glasgow G2 6HR				
0141 248 2000				
Measured Perf	200.30	211.90	- 2.00	...
Performance Plus	227.20	240.40	+ 0.30	...
With Profit Perf	186.40	197.20	+ 0.20	...

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
UK Opportunity	245.50	259.70	+ 1.90	...
Euro Opportunity	276.30	292.20	...	...
North Amer Opp	236.80	250.50	- 0.10	...
Far East Opp	211.50	223.80	- 1.90	...
Gwth Prop Ser 1	171.80	180.90	...	...
Gth Prop Ser 2	207.20	219.30	- 0.50	...
Fixed Int	229.10	242.40	+ 0.50	...
Cash	170.00	179.70	...	6.49
Overseas	261.90	277.10	+ 0.30	..
Formerly LAS				
Managed Fund	419.50	441.60	- 4.10	..
UK Equity	742.50	781.60	- 5.70	...
Property	286.00	301.10	- 0.80	..
Money Market	269.30	283.50	+ 0.10	...
Fixed Interest	332.80	350.40	+ 0.70	...
Japan	343.60	361.70	-11.10	...
North America	210.70	221.80	- 0.10	...
International	404.70	426.00	+ 0.50	...
European	353.20	371.80	...	...
Far East	156.60	164.90	- 1.40	...
CANADA LIFE				
24 High Street, Potters Bar, Herts EN6 5BA				
01707 51122				
Equity Growth ‡	282.80	...	...	...
Managed	398.10	419.10	...	...
Property	258.90	272.60	+ 0.30	...
Gilt & Fxd Int	271.70	286.00	+ 0.60	...
Equity	467.80	492.50	+ 0.50	...
Cash	229.80	241.90	+ 0.20	...
CLife Euro Mgd	465.60	490.20	+ 4.70	...
CLife Intl Fd	406.10	427.50	- 1.00	...
Managed Fund	858.00	903.20	+ 0.60	...
Property Fund	551.60	580.60	+ 0.70	...
Equity Fund	1149.00	1209.50	+ 1.70	...
Gilt Edged Fd	691.80	728.20	- 1.30	...
Deposit Fund	356.90	375.70	..	...
Investment Fd	510.90	536.50	+ 0.90	...
International	635.00	668.40	- 1.70	...
CITY OF WESTMINSTER ASSURANCE				
Sentry House, 500 Avebury Blvd,				
Milton Keynes MK9 2NU. 01908 606101				
Property Fund	169.40	178.40	...	...
Managed Fund	753.20	792.90	- 0.40	...
Equity Fund	445.10	468.60	- 0.30	...
CLERICAL MEDICAL/FIDELITY INVESTMENTS				
Narrow Plain, Bristol BS2 0JH. 0117 9290566				
Assurance Funds				
Sapphire Mixed	341.20	359.20	- 0.20	...
Ruby	202.90	213.60	- 0.80	...
Emerald	158.90	167.30	+ 0.40	...
Equity	401.40	422.60	- 1.50	...
Property	238.20	250.80	+ 0.20	...
Gilt & Fixed Int	229.40	241.50	+ 0.60	...
Indexed Secs	184.80	194.60	+ 0.90	...
Cash	201.90	212.60	+ 0.10	...
Nth American	300.90	316.80	- 0.90	.
Far East	343.40	361.50	- 5.70	..
International	279.80	294.60	- 1.50	...
Special Sits	443.60	467.00	- 1.70	...
Intl Income	354.80	373.50	+ 1.80	...
European	401.60	422.80	- 2.90	...
Japanese	136.10	143.30	- 1.70	...
SE Asia	400.60	424.90	- 1.10	...
With Profits Reg	184.70	194.50	+ 0.20	...
-do- Spec	184.70	194.50	+ 0.20	...
Flexible Retirement Plans Funds				
Mixed	401.10	422.30	+ 0.10	...
Equity	499.20	525.50	+ 1.90	...
Property	221.20	232.90	+ 0.40	..
Gilt & Fixed Int	296.70	312.40	+ 0.90	..
Index Linked	198.40	208.90	+ 1.20	..
Cash	276.50	291.10	+ 0.30	..
Nth American	376.80	396.70	- 1.20	..
Far East Acc	331.20	348.70	- 3.80	...
International Acc	355.50	374.30	- 2.60	..
Special Sits	672.60	708.10	+ 1.10	...
European Flex	586.70	617.60	- 1.00	..
COLONIAL MUTUAL GROUP				
Colonial Mutual House, Chatham Maritime,				
Kent ME4 4YY. 01634 890 000				
(Units): Key ‡	243.76	...	+16.17	..
-do- Pacemaker ‡	370.46	...	+ 6.88	..
-do- Cash	216.34	227.73	+ 0.14	..
-do- Equity	655.90	690.42	+ 1.24	...
-do- Fxd Int	403.84	425.09	+ 1.33	...
-do- Managed	470.02	494.76	- 1.81	...
-do- Property	332.57	350.07	- 1.22	..
(Pens): Cash Cap	214.51	225.81	+ 0.06	...
-do- Cash Inv	338.08	352.73	+ 0.33	...
-do- Equity Cap	£17.30	£18.21	+ 5.02	...
-do- Equity Inv	£27.02	£28.44	+ 9.74	...
-do- Fixed Cap	436.00	459.66	+ 1.12	...
-do- Fixed Inv	682.10	718.01	+ 2.25	..
-do- Index Cap	213.00	224.23	+ 1.28	..
-do- Index Inv	332.73	350.25	+ 2.23	..
-do- Mngd Cap	687.30	723.58	+ 1.61	...
-do- Mngd Inv	£10.73	£11.30	+ 3.27	...
COMMERCIAL UNION				
St Helen's, 1 Undershaft, EC3 0171 283 7500				
Var Ann Acc (5) ‡	920.42	.	- 2.78	...
Var Ann (5) ‡	108.92	...	- 0.09	...
Prime: Managed	477.50	502.70	- 0.80	...
Prime: UK Equity	606.90	638.90	+ 1.50	...
Prime: Inr Equity	336.20	353.90	- 3.90	...
Prime: Property	250.10	263.30	+ 0.20	...
Prime: Fxd Int	261.70	275.50	+ 0.20	...
Prime Index-Lnk	186.10	195.90	+ 1.10	...
Prime: Cash	220.10	231.70	+ 0.20	..
CONFEDERATION LIFE				
Lytton Way, Stevenage, Herts SG1 2NN				
01438 744940				
Managed Fund	1300.60	1369.00	- 5.50	..
Equity II	1917.90	2018.80	+ 9.30	...
For Crown see Windsor				
EAGLE STAR LIFE ASSURANCE				
Montpellier Drive, Cheltenham GL53 7LQ.				
01242 221311				
Life Funds				
UK With Pfts (S&G) ‡	108.70	..	+ 0.10	...
Secure (2) ‡	105.50	...	+ 0.10	...
Managed (3) ‡	115.20	...	- 0.20	...
Equity Mngd (3) ‡	115.20	...	- 0.20	...
Adventurous (3) ‡	108.60	...	- 0.50	...

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Bristol & West (2) ‡	106.60	...	+ 0.20	...
Equity Mgd S‡	285.20	300.30	- 0.70	...
Managed S‡	284.30	299.30	- 0.60	...
Adventurous S‡	228.40	240.50	- 1.30	...
Managed (2)	190.40	200.50	- 0.30	...
Pension Funds				
Unit With Pfts (5) ‡	107.20	...	+ 0.20	...
Secure (2) ‡	104.90	...	+ 0.10	...
Managed (2) ‡	111.70	...	- 0.30	...
Equity Mngd (2) ‡	112.90	..	- 0.20	...
Adventurous (2) ‡	106.10	...	- 0.60	...
Bristol & West (2) ‡	105.80	...	+ 0.10	...
EAGLE STAR/MIDLAND				
60 St Mary Axe, London EC3. 0171 929 1111				
Eagle/Mid Uts	357.90	370.80	+ 1.70	0.01
FRIENDS' PROVIDENT				
Castle Street, Salisbury, Wilts SP1 3SH				
01722 413366				
Managed	370.40	389.90	+ 0.70	...
UK Equity	509.20	536.10	+ 2.10	...
Stewardship	449.60	473.30	+ 2.50	...
Overseas Equity	341.30	359.30	- 1.00	...
North American	199.90	210.50	- 0.10	...
Pacific Basin	179.70	189.30	- 2.70	...
European	306.30	322.50	- 0.90	...
Property	184.30	194.00	+ 0.20	...
Fixed Interest	270.70	285.00	+ 1.20	...
Index Linked	185.50	195.30	+ 1.20	...
Cash	215.70	227.10	+ 0.20	...
FP Life Assurance ex NM				
Fixed Interest	605.90	637.70	- 0.10	...
Managed	825.50	868.90	+ 1.50	...
Deposit	368.00	387.30	+ 0.30	...
Property	520.40	547.70	+ 0.60	...
American	544.70	573.30	- 1.10	...
Australian	645.30	679.20	- 3.40	...
European	740.60	779.50	+ 1.00	...
Income Acc	899.90	947.20	+ 0.10	...
-do- Dist	502.50	528.90	..	5.02
International	363.00	382.10	- 1.10	...
Japan Smaller	446.40	469.80	- 6.00	...
Singapore & Mal	421.30	443.40	- 7.20	..
Smaller Cos	509.20	536.00	- 1.80	...
Tokyo Fund	640.00	673.60	- 6.40	...
UK Equity	699.90	736.70	+ 2.60	...
CCM Vangd Mg	897.90	945.10	- 0.20	...
GT GLOBAL FUND MGMT LTD				
Alban Gate, 14th Flr, 125 London Wall, Lond				
EC2Y 5AS. 0171 710 4567				
GT Plan Far East	335.40	353.10	- 1.30	...
GT Plan Wwide	560.70	590.30	- 3.80	...
GAN LIFE & PENSIONS				
Gan House, Harlow, Essex				
CM20 2EW. 01279 626262				
Portfolio Acc	796.70	796.70	- 1.90	..
-do- Inv A	796.60	838.60	- 2.00	...
UK Equity	491.90	517.90	- 0.40	..
Gilt Plus	226.30	238.30	- 0.10	..
Managed	359.50	378.60	- 0.80	..
GENERAL ACCIDENT				
2 Rougier St, York YO1 1HR. 01904 628982				
Managed	248.10	261.10	- 0.20	...
Unitised Profit	155.90	164.10	- 0.30	...
UK Equity	356.20	374.90	+ 1.20	...
Fixed Int	217.30	228.60	+ 0.50	...
Index-Linked	181.70	191.30	+ 0.80	...
Cash Deposit	186.30	196.00	+ 0.10	..
Property	180.70	190.10	+ 0.20	.
International	195.90	206.10	- 1.00	..
American	211.30	222.20	- 1.90	...
Japan	225.30	237.10	- 3.10	..
Japan Smllr Cos	230.70	242.80	- 3.20	..
European	217.80	229.20	- 0.70	..
Pacific Fund	310.00	326.20	- 5.50	..
Conv Life	153.40	161.30	+ 1.20	..
Formerly Provident Mutual				
Managed Ord	566.00	595.80	- 0.50	..
Managed Initial	359.40	378.30	- 0.50	...
Equity Ord	899.80	947.20	+ 3.10	...
Equity Init	571.30	601.40	+ 1.60	...
I-Linked Gilt Ord	221.30	232.90	+ 0.80	..
I-Linked Gilt Init	146.80	154.50	+ 0.50	...
Oseas Equity Ord	437.20	460.20	- 4.30	...
Oseas Equity Init	277.60	292.20	- 3.00	...
Property Ord	280.40	295.20	+ 0.40	.
Property Init	178.00	187.40	...	...
Fixed Int Ord	317.40	334.10	+ 0.70	...
Fixed Int Init	201.50	212.10	+ 0.30	...
Deposit Ord	221.90	233.60	+ 0.10	.
Deposit Initial	140.90	148.30	...	..
GUARDIAN ROYAL EXCHANGE				
Royal Exchange London EC3. 0171 283 7101				
Ass Prop Bds	863	898.90	.	..
Managed Initial	541.70	570.20	- 0.80	...
-do- Acc	805.30	847.70	- 0.70	...
Equity Initial	855.10	900.10	+ 0.80	...
-do- Acc	1271.20	1338.10	+ 1.70	..
Fixed Int Initial	471.10	493.90	- 0.60	..
-do- Acc	700.30	734.10	- 0.80	...
Intl Initial	514.50	541.50	- 3.70	.
-do- Acc	764.80	805	- 5.10	..
Nth Amer Initial	246.40	259.40	- 1.00	..
-do- Acc	333.30	350.90	- 1.30	..
Pacific Initial	233.40	245.70	- 3.50	..
-do- Acc	312.80	329.20	- 4.60	..
Property Initial	182	191.50	..	...
-do- Acc	270.30	284.60	...	...
Index-Lnkd Initl	169.50	178.40	+ 0.90	..
-do- Acc	229.30	241.40	+ 1.30	..
Deposit Initial	204.50	215.20	.	...
-do- Acc	303.90	319.90	+ 0.20	...
Euro Initial	125.40	132	- 0.10	...
-do- Acc	156.80	165.10	..	..
HALIFAX LIFE LTD				
PO Box 285, York YO1 1YB 01904 611110				
Life Funds				
Foundation	30.35	31.95	+ 0.03	..
Balanced	30.34	31.94	- 0.09	..
Opportunity	31.47	33.13	- 0.01	...
Deposit	25.35	26.68	+ 0.02	...
Pension Funds				
Foundation	31.73	33.51	+ 0.08	...
Balanced	31.40	33.05	- 0.02	...
Opportunity	32.76	34.48	+ 0.05	..
Deposit	25.95	27.32	+ 0.03	...

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
HAMBRO ASSURED				
Harbour House, Portway, Preston, Lancs				
PR2 2PR. 01772 840008				
Managed	202.00	212.60	- 0.20	...
-do- Pens	258.10	271.60	- 0.30	...
UK Equity	214.50	225.70	- 0.10	...
-do- Pens	256.70	270.20	- 0.10	...
International	173.30	182.40	- 0.40	...
-do- Pens	192.90	203.00	- 0.60	...
Deposit	148.90	156.70	+ 0.10	...
-do- Pens	180.40	189.80	+ 0.20	..
For Henderson see Scot Prov				
HILL SAMUEL LIFE				
NLA Tower, Addiscombe Road, Croydon				
0181 686 4355				
Security Fund	689.00	729.20	+ 2.80	..
British Fund	683.30	723.10	+ 2.30	...
International	641.30	678.70	- 3.80	...
Dollar Fund	553.90	586.20	- 0.90	...
Capital Fund	590.50	624.90	- 0.20	...
Income Fund	842.60	891.70	+ 3.90	...
Property Series A	495.80	524.70	...	4.90
Property Units	823.20	864.40	...	...
Financial Fund	765.50	810.10	+ 5.00	...
Managed Ser A	653.90	692.00	+ 0.90	...
Managed Units	1178.40	1240.50	+ 0.90	...
High Yield Fund	753.90	797.80	+ 3.90	...
Money Series A	310.70	328.80	+ 0.20	...
Money Units	414.70	436.60	+ 0.40	...
Equity Fund	755.00	799.00	- 0.30	...
Fixed Interest	417.30	441.60	+ 0.90	..
Indexed Secs	204.90	216.90	- 0.90	...
European Fund	900.20	952.60	- 7.70	...
Natural Res	335.90	355.50	- 2.00	...
Far East Fund	668.50	707.50	- 6.00	...
Smaller Cos	659.80	698.30	- 1.50	...
Special Sits	637.50	674.70	+ 2.40	...
Man Currency	286.20	302.90	- 0.50	...
Japanese Tech	307.30	325.20	- 5.70	...
US Smaller Cos	460.60	487.50	- 1.70	...
Formerly Target Life Assurance Co Ltd				
Deposit	266.40	280.50	+ 0.20	...
Financial Ser 1	62.40	66.70	+ 0.60	...
Fixed Interest	367.40	386.90	+ 1.10	...
Gold	91.70	96.60	- 0.10	...
Managed	726.10	764.40	- 1.00	...
Mngd Growth	233.60	246.00	- 0.30	...
Mngd Opp	247.70	260.90	- 0.50	...
Property	363.90	383.10	...	...
Residential Prop	112.00	118.00	...	...
TSB American	293.70	309.20	- 3.60	...
TSB Brit Gwth	1086.40	1143.70	- 0.60	...
TSB European	326.60	343.90	- 3.80	..
TSB Income	463.60	488.10	- 1.90	..
TSB Intl	492.50	518.50	- 3.50	..
TSB Intl Inc	331.40	349.00	- 2.70	..
TSB Pacific	423.00	445.40	-14.20	...
TSB Prem Inc	288.50	301.50	- 1.10	..
IRISH LIFE ASSURANCE				
Irish Life Centre, Victoria Street, St Albans,				
Herts AL1 5TF. 01727 48181				
Global Managed	683.10	719.10	- 0.90	...
Global Property	321.10	338.00	...	...
Global Fixed Int	577.30	607.70	- 1.60	...
Global Equity	746.30	785.60	- 0.70	...
Global Cash	229.70	241.80	+ 0.20	..
LAURENTIAN LIFE				
Barnwood, Gloucester GL4 7RZ				
01452 371371				
Property	537.50	565.70	+ 0.50	...
Managed	490.10	515.80	+ 0.40	...
American	533.90	561.90	- 0.40	...
UK Equity Fd	553.90	583.00	- 3.10	...
Japan	202.40	213.00	- 3.50	..
Index-Lkd	202.30	212.90	+ 2.30	...
High Yield	1017	1070	+ 6.00	...
Money	432.30	455.00	+ 0.30	...
International	442.70	465.90	- 3.40	...
Henderson Active	239.40	251.90	- 0.60	...
Perpetual Active	375.80	395.50	- 4.20	...
Growth Acc	765.20	805.40	+ 0.80	...
Gilt Edged	479.20	504.40	+ 1.60	...
European	173.00	182.10	- 0.20	...
Far East	225.50	237.30	- 3.80	...
LEGAL & GENERAL UNIT ASSURANCE				
2 Montefiore Road, Hove, Sussex BN3 1SE				
01273 824000				
B Soc Lnkd Init	134.80	141.90	..	...
-do- Acc	196.90	207.30	...	...
Brit Opps Ini	172.00	181.10	+ 0.70	...
-do- Acc	225.60	237.50	+ 0.90	..
Cash Initial	170.40	179.40	+ 0.10	...
-do- Acc	310.00	326.40	+ 0.40	...
Equity Initial	784.00	825.30	+ 4.40	...
-do- Acc	1426.00	1501.10	+ 8.10	..
Fixed Initial	371.30	390.90	+ 1.40	...
-do- Acc	675.40	711.00	+ 2.50	...
Index-Lnkd Gilt	139.20	146.60	+ 0.90	...
-do- Acc	216.00	227.40	+ 1.20	...
Intl Initial	350.90	369.40	- 2.80	..
-do- Acc	628.40	661.50	- 5.00	...
Managed Initial	538.50	566.90	+ 0.60	...
-do- Acc	979.50	1031.10	+ 1.30	...
Property Initial	223.70	235.50	+ 0.20	...
-do- Acc	407.00	428.50	+ 0.60	..
LINCOLN NATIONAL				
The Quays, 101-105 Oxford Road, Uxbridge,				
Middx UB8 1LZ 01895 200 200				
Equity Units	161.20	...	+79.00	...
Property Units	2793	2940	- 4.00	..
Bal Bd Exet Unit	7806	8217	+ 6.00	...
2nd Equity Acc	762.50	802.60	+ 3.90	...
2nd High Inc Ac	731.80	770.30	+ 4.80	...
2nd Property Acc	251.80	265.00	- 0.40	...
2nd Mngd 2 Acc	199.90	210.50	...	...
2nd Mngd 3 Acc	543.50	572.30	+ 0.40	..
2nd Mngd 4 Acc	267.80	281.90	- 0.50	...
2nd Deposit Acc	304.40	320.40	+ 0.20	...
2nd Gilt Acc	340.30	358.20	+ 0.80	...
2nd Amer Acc	895.70	942.80	- 1.40	..
2nd Intl Mny Acc	262.20	276.00	- 1.60	...
2nd Index Acc	225.60	237.50	+ 1.70	...
2nd Far East Acc	455.40	479.30	- 9.20	...
2nd Global Acc	196.20	206.50	- 1.40	...

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
2nd Euro Acc	185.20	194.90	+ 0.20	...
2nd Japan Acc	179.70	189.20	- 2.90	...
2nd Int Cr Bd Acc	176.50	185.80	- 0.50	..
2nd Cap Gth Acc	149.50	157.40	+ 0.70	...
LONDON LIFE				
100 Temple Street, Bristol, BS1 6EA				
0117 984 7777				
Equity ‡	£10.68	...	- 0.60	...
Fixed Interest ‡	489.40	...	- 2.20	...
Property ‡	447.40	...	+ 0.30	..
Deposit ‡	316.20	...	+ 0.40	...
Mixed ‡	696.30	...	- 2.10	...
Indexed Stock ‡	260.00	...	+ 0.80	..
International ‡	335.50	...	- 3.60	...
Equity A ‡	247.30	...	- 0.10	...
Fixed Int A ‡	216.20	...	- 1.00	...
Property A ‡	196.20	...	+ 0.10	...
Deposit A ‡	165.40	..	+ 0.20	...
Mixed A ‡	228.30	..	- 0.70	...
Index Stock A ‡	187.50	...	+ 0.60	...
International A ‡	209.10	...	- 2.30	...
Equity P ‡	916.00	...	- 1.20	...
Fixed Int P ‡	660.30	...	- 2.80	...
Property P ‡	353.70	...	+ 0.50	...
Deposit P ‡	378.60	...	+ 0.40	...
Mixed P ‡	665.40	...	- 1.70	...
Index Stock P ‡	274.50	...	+ 0.90	...
International P ‡	307.30	...	- 5.20	...
LONDON & MANCHESTER ASSURANCE				
Winslade Park, Exeter EX5 1DS. 01392 282456				
Inv Trust Cap ‡	621.80	...	- 2.80	...
-do- Acc ‡	1130.50	...	- 4.10	...
Property Cap ‡	137.20	...	+ 0.10	...
-do- Acc ‡	236.30	...	+ 0.40	...
Fxd Interest Cap ‡	201.90	...	+ 0.20	...
-do- Acc ‡	353.60	...	+ 0.80	...
Equity Cap ‡	365.70	...	- 0.40	...
-do- Acc ‡	651.30	...	- 0.10	...
Internatl Cap ‡	248.50	...	- 1.40	...
-do- Acc ‡	437.70	...	- 2.10	...
Gtd Deposit Cap ‡	161.40	...	- 0.10	...
-do- Acc ‡	280.10	...	+ 0.20	7.20
Flexible Cap ‡	377.20	...	- 0.70	...
-do- Acc ‡	669.30	...	- 0.60	...
Moneymaker Fd ‡	515.30	...	- 0.40	...
Capital Growth ‡	2135.10	...	- 1.20	...
M & G				
Victoria Road, Chelmsford, Essex CM1 1FB				
01245 266266				
Amer Bond Acc	550.10	577.70	- 5.10	...
Amer Rec Bond	603.60	633.90	-11.00	...
Am Smlr Cos Bd	313.20	329.00	- 3.50	...
Australasia Bd	300.30	315.50	- 2.70	...
Commodity Bond	395.30	415.20	- 4.10	...
Deposit Bond Acc	387.50	407.00	+ 0.20	...
Equity Bond Acc	1768.90	1857.40	+ 5.70	...
European Bd Acc	485.50	509.90	- 2.20	...
Extra Yld Bd Acc	882.30	926.90	+10.60	...
Gilt Bond Acc	493.30	518.10	+ 2.90	...
Gold Bond Acc	193.90	203.70	- 2.20	...
High Yield Bond	368.80	387.30	+ 3.30	...
Index-Lnk Gt Bd	226.70	238.10	+ 1.30	...
International Bd	878.30	922.30	- 8.40	...
Japan Bond Acc	232.90	244.60	- 6.20	...
Japan Sm Cos Ac	231.40	243.00	- 6.80	...
Managed Bonds	1016.60	1067.50	...	...
Prop Bond Acc	438.70	460.70	- 3.80	...
Rec Bond Acc	922.10	968.30	+14.80	...
$ East Asia Bd Acc	348.60	366.20	+ 6.70	...
MGM ASSURANCE				
MGM House, Heene Road, Worthing				
BN11 2DY. 01903 204631				
UK Equity	272.80	287.20	+ 0.70	..
UK Equity Acc	410.60	432.30	+ 1.50	...
Special Sits	113.40	119.40	+ 0.40	..
Special Sits Acc	170.70	179.70	+ 0.70	..
North American	230.10	242.30	- 1.00	..
N American Acc	346.40	364.70	- 1.30	...
Pacific Basin	362.50	381.60	- 2.30	...
Pacific Basin Acc	545.60	574.40	- 3.10	...
Fixed Interest	301.60	317.50	+ 0.80	...
Fixed Interest Acc	454.60	478.60	+ 1.70	...
Property	179.90	187.40	- 2.00	.
Property Acc	271.10	285.40	+ 0.20	..
Deposit	154.30	162.50	...	...
Deposit Acc	232.60	244.90	+ 0.20	...
Managed	299.30	315.10	+ 0.10	...
Managed Acc	415.20	437.10	+ 0.50	...
MERCHANT INVESTORS				
St Bartholomews House, Lewins Mead				
Bristol BS1 2NH				
0117 9266 366				
Property	421.00	443.10	+ 0.20	...
UK Equity	434.00	456.80	+ 2.10	...
Gilt Edged	650.30	684.50	- 0.50	...
Interest Fund	425.80	448.20	+ 0.40	...
Managed Fd	563.40	593.00	- 1.50	..
Intl Equity	697.40	734.30	- 3.30	...
North American	267.00	281.00	+ 0.10	...
Far East	464.10	488.50	-10.30	..
Intl Currency	259.50	273.10	+ 0.20	...
NPI				
48 Gracechurch Street, London EC3P 3HH				
0171 623 4200				
Managed	585.30	616.10	- 0.90	...
UK Equity	792.80	833.90	+ 2.10	...
Overseas Equity	553.80	582.90	- 5.10	..
American	522.90	550.40	- 0.70	..
Far East	613.20	645.40	- 8.70	..
Property	227.00	238.90	- 0.10	...
Fixed Interest	437.80	460.80	+ 0.20	..
Indexed Gilt	252.90	266.20	+ 1.20	...
Deposit	233.20	245.40	+ 0.20	...
NORWICH UNION LIFE INSURANCE SOCIETY - Ex NUAM Funds				
PO Box 140, Norwich NR1 1PP				
01603 622200				
Managed Fund	1750.00	1842.10	- 0.30	...
Equity Fund	3976.00	4185.30	+ 9.70	...
Property Fd	638.60	672.20	- 0.20	...
Fixed Int Fd	682.60	718.50	+ 2.00	..
Deposit Fund	378.20	398.10	+ 0.30	...
Intl Fund	289.90	305.20	- 1.40	...

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
OLD MUTUAL				
2 Bartley Way, Hook, Hants RG27 9XA				
01256 768888				
Equity Fund Acc	355.40	374.90	+ 1.00	...
Fxd Interest Acc	273.80	288.90	+ 1.40	...
International Acc	280.50	295.90	+ 0.10	...
Managed Acc	252.10	266.00	+ 0.20	...
Property Acc	214.70	226.50	- 0.60	...
Money Acc	165.40	174.50	- 0.10	...
Spec Mia Acc	234.20	247.10	- 4.00	...
Japan Equity Acc	122.10	128.90	- 2.10	...
N Amer Acc	197.50	208.40	- 1.10	..
Pacific Acc	161.60	170.50	- 1.30	..
European Acc	246.60	260.20	+ 1.20	...
PEARL ASSURANCE				
The Pearl Centre, Lynch Wood, Peterborough				
PE2 6FY. 01733 470 470				
Inv Prop Dist	148.70	156.60	+ 0.10	...
Prop Acc (Gross)	333.60	351.20	+ 0.40	...
Inv Equity	1476.30	1554.10	+ 5.80	...
Inv Managed	1006.10	1059.10	+ 0.90	...
Ret Managed	1178.70	1240.80	+ 0.50	...
For Provident Mutual see General Accident				
PRUDENTIAL				
Holborn Bars, London EC1N 2NH				
0171 405 9222				
Managed	420.30	437.90	+ 1.30	...
PRUDENTIAL INDIVIDUAL LIFE FDS				
1 Stephen Street, London W1P 2AP				
0171 548 3278				
Managed Fund	967.80	1018.80	...	...
Equity Fund	1918.90	2019.90	+ 4.40	...
Intl Fund	754.30	794.10	- 4.00	...
Fixed Interest	638.50	672.20	+ 0.70	...
Property Fund	494.90	521.00	+ 0.70	...
Cash Fund	391.90	412.60	+ 0.20	...
Pacific Basin	398.20	419.20	- 5.10	...
N American Fd	362.00	381.10	- 0.80	...
Euro Fund	346.90	365.20	- 0.50	...
Balanced Fund	190.60	200.70	- 0.90	...
Strategic Fund	204.60	215.40	- 0.10	...
ROYAL HERITAGE LIFE ASSURANCE				
Peterborough Business Park, Peterborough				
PE2 6GG. 01733 390000				
Mult Grow (45) ‡	903.20	...	+15.00	...
-do- Acc	497.60	523.80	...	...
Op Prop	515.30	542.40	- 0.20	...
Op Equity	1226.90	1291.40	- 1.00	...
Op High Yield	671.20	706.50	+ 3.20	...
Op Managed	962.30	1012.90	- 1.00	...
Op Deposit	420.60	442.70	+ 0.40	...
Japan Smlr	243.30	256.00	- 3.30	...
Managed Gth	343.30	361.30	+ 2.50	...
Gilt	90.20	94.90	...	...
British	468.20	492.80	- 6.20	...
Global Bond	129.40	136.20	+ 0.20	...
Gold Share	91.00	95.70	+ 1.30	...
Option Dist	335.10	352.70	...	..
Japan	401.30	422.40	- 8.20	...
UK Smlr Cos	515.30	542.30	+ 5.90	...
Mngd Growth	578.50	608.90	- 2.90	...
ROYAL LIFE INSURANCE				
New Hall Place, Liverpool L69 3HS				
0151 239 3000				
Royal Life Unit Linked				
Managed Fund	462.60	486.90	+ 0.90	...
Equity Fund	664.10	699.00	- 0.70	..
Property Fund	356.20	373.80	- 0.10	...
International	568.10	597.90	- 1.00	...
Pacific Basin	294.30	309.70	- 1.70	...
United States	364.90	384.10	+ 2.80	...
Gilt Fund	421.40	443.50	+ 1.40	...
SAVE & PROSPER				
16-22 Western Road, Romford, Essex				
RM1 3LB. 01708 766966				
Bal Inv Fund	89.00	94.20	+ 0.10	2.30
Deposit Fund (2)	405.60	429.50	+ 0.40	6.02
Gilt Fund	590.60	625.00	+ 1.40	8.50
Global Equity Fd	280.10	296.50	- 1.40	...
Property Fund (40)	120.10	127.10	...	7.09
AC Bond Fund	161.00	170.40	- 0.50	..
SCOTTISH AMICABLE				
150 St Vincent Street, Glasgow				
0141 248 2323				
Equity	736.30	775.10	+ 0.10	..
Fixed Interest	414.60	436.50	+ 1.70	...
Index-Linked	214.90	226.30	+ 0.60	...
International	523.70	551.30	- 2.70	...
Property	314.90	331.50	+ 0.40	...
Cash	247.10	260.20	+ 0.10	.
Managed	556.30	585.60	- 0.90	.
Cap Gteed Bd	143.70	151.30	+ 0.10	..
95% Safeguard	95.30	100.40	...	..
100% Safeguard	95.10	100.30	..	..
SCOTTISH EQUITABLE				
28 St Andrew Square, Edinburgh EH2 1YF				
0131 556 9101				
Cash	195.113	205.382	+ 0.14	...
Index-Linked	182.70	192.30	- 0.10	...
Fixed Interest	206.10	217.10	+ 0.80	...
Mixed	309.40	326.30	- 0.80	...
UK Equity	300.90	316.70	- 0.20	...
International	300.90	316.80	- 3.70	...
American	352.50	371.00	- 2.50	...
Japan	223.20	234.90	- 4.20	...
European	330.70	348.10	- 1.70	...
Pacific	377.70	397.50	- 9.00	...
Technology	535.80	564.00	+ 2.90	...
Frgn Bd/Crrcy	248.90	262.10	- 0.60	..
SCOTTISH LIFE INVESTMENTS				
19 St Andrews Square, Edinburgh EH2 1YE				
0131 225 2211				
Property	228.20	240.10	+ 0.20	...
UK Equity	448.50	472.20	+ 0.20	...
American	329.20	346.60	- 2.30	..
Pacific	370.00	389.60	- 5.70	...
European	594.90	626.30	- 6.60	...
Global Med	369.40	388.90	- 3.90	...
Fixed Interest	267.00	281.20	- 2.30	..

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
Index Linked	217.10	228.60	+ 0.10	...
Deposit	209.90	221.10	+ 0.20	...
Managed	345.50	363.80	- 1.40	...
Worldwide	138.90	146.30	- 1.50	...
Pen Worldwide	150.60	158.60	- 1.90	...
SCOTTISH MUTUAL ASSURANCE				
109 St Vincent Street, Glasgow G2 5HN				
0141 248 6321				
Flex Fund (39)	2043.70	2106.90	...	...
Safety Fund	271.20	285.50	+ 0.50	...
Growth Fund	280.90	295.70	+ 0.10	...
Opportunity Fd	280.70	295.50	- 0.20	..
Cash Fund	186.70	196.60	+ 0.10	...
European Fund	431.10	453.80	- 1.00	...
Gilts & Fxd Int	230.00	242.20	+ 0.90	...
Index-Linked Fd	198.90	209.40	+ 1.30	...
International Fd	325.10	342.30	- 1.30	...
North American	304.60	320.70	+ 0.40	...
Property Fund	131.80	138.80	- 0.20	...
UK Equity	309.10	325.40	- 1.50	...
UK Smaller	321.10	338.00	- 0.20	...
SCOTTISH PROVIDENT				
6 St Andrews Square, Edinburgh EH2 2YA				
0131 556 9181				
Mixed	332.20	349.90	+ 0.20	...
Equity	366.10	385.40	+ 0.70	...
International	305.60	321.80	- 0.90	...
Property	240.20	253.00	+ 0.10	...
Fixed Interest	252.70	266.10	+ 2.00	...
Index Linked	200.30	211.00	+ 1.90	...
Cash	199.30	209.90	+ 0.10	..
Formerly Prolific				
Bal Gwth Mngd	975.60	1037.90	- 1.40	...
Cash Fund	363.10	382.70	+ 0.40	...
Property Fund	312.10	328.90	+ 0.40	...
Equity Fund	1061.00	1128.80	- 8.20	...
Fxd Interest Fund	528.30	556.70	+ 1.70	...
International	432.20	459.80	- 3.40	...
High Income	901.30	958.90	+ 3.40	...
Far East	594.70	632.70	-13.00	...
North American	721.40	767.50	- 6.20	...
Special Sits	876.00	932.00	+ 3.00	...
Technology	1060.50	1128.20	+ 2.90	...
Extra Income Fd	489.20	520.50	+ 1.10	..
Gilt Fund	532.40	566.40	...	...
European	183.30	195.10	- 0.40	...
Adventurous Mg	248.00	261.40	- 1.50	...
Secure Mgd	173.40	182.80	+ 0.30	..
Equity Inc Dist	138.90	146.00	+ 0.40	4.07
Managed Dist	124.20	130.90	+ 0.20	4.74
Henderson Investment Bonds				
UK Equity Fd	409.60	435.60	+ 0.80	...
North America	467.80	497.70	+ 0.40	...
Far East Fund	611.00	650.10	- 8.20	...
Global Managed	572.60	609.20	+ 0.70	...
Deposit Fund	244.80	257.70	...	...
Prime Residential	138.30	145.60	...	..
European Fund	332.60	353.90	- 1.50	...
Fixed Interest	65.90	70.10	...	..
SCOTTISH WIDOWS				
PO Box 902, Edinburgh EH16 5BU				
0131 655 6000				
Inv Pol 1	1208.50	1208.50	- 0.10	..
Inv Pol 2	1093.20	1150.80	- 0.10	...
Inv Pol 3	1035.10	1089.70	.	..
Inv Cash	339.80	357.80		...
Mixed Fund	548.90	577.90	- 2.80	...
Equity Fund	689.30	725.70	+ 1.70	.
Property Fund	260.90	274.80	+ 0.20	...
International Fd	573.00	603.20	- 7.80	.
Fixed Interest Fd	429.30	452.00	- 1.40	...
Indexed Stock Fd	219.70	231.40	+ 1.80	..
Cash Fund	245.60	258.60	+ 0.10	...
SKANDIA LIFE				
Skandia House, Portland Terrace,				
Southampton SO9 7BX				
01703 334411				
Managed Acc	456.10	480.10	- 5.80	...
Equity Acc	577.30	607.60	- 0.70	..
International Acc	385.60	405.90	- 1.10	..
Property	235.50	247.80	- 0.20	..
STANDARD LIFE ASSURANCE CO				
3 George Street, Edinburgh EH2 2XZ				
0131 225 2552				
Cash	288.60	303.80	+ 0.20	..
Equity	1272.50	1339.50	+ 5.00	...
European	202.50	213.20	- 0.40	..
Far East	179.20	188.70	- 1.90	..
Fixed Interest	453.60	477.50	+ 0.30	...
Index Linked	233.30	245.50	+ 1.30	...
International	693.80	730.40	- 5.00	...
Managed	850.20	895.00	+ 0.20	..
Nth American	193.30	203.50	- 0.70	..
Property	388.70	409.20	+ 0.40	...
Pensions				
Cash	460.30	484.60	+ 0.60	.
Equity	1959.90	2063.10	+ 9.50	..
European	259.30	273.00	- 0.10	..
Far East	143.90	151.50	- 2.00	
Fixed Interest	648.40	682.60	+ 0.50	...
Index Linked	330.20	347.60	+ 2.10	.
International	1044.80	1099.80	- 8.80	..
Managed	1263.80	1330.40	+ 0.70	..
Nth American	259.30	273.00	- 0.70	...
Property	550.60	579.60	..	...
Stock Exchange	286.00	301.10	+ 0.30	...
SUN ALLIANCE				
St Mark's Court, Horsham, Sussex				
01403 232323				
Managed Fund	823.30	866.70	+ 1.10	...
Equity Fund	1138.80	1198.80	+ 3.00	..
Fixed Interest Fd	463.30	487.70	+ 1.30	...
Index-Linked Fd	355.30	374.00	+ 2.90	..
Property Fund	540.20	568.70	+ 0.70	..
International Fd	767.40	807.80	- 2.40	...
N American Fd	395.80	416.70	- 1.80	..
Far East Fund	252.90	266.30	- 6.40	...
Deposit Fund	322.30	339.30	+ 0.30	...
Intnl Bd 1	£107.30	.	+ 1.40	...
Worldwide Bond	175.50	184.80	- 0.40	...

	Bid	Offer	Wkly +/-	Yld %
European	218.40	229.90	+ 1.50	...
Phoenix Assurance				
Wealth Assured	831.30	875.20	+ 3.10	.
Ebor Phoenix Eq	557.30	593.70	.	
Property Growth				
Property Fund ‡	630.40	..	+ 0.80	
-do- Acc ‡	594.10	..	+ 0.60	
Agricultural Fd ‡	892.50	...	- 0.20	
-do- Acc ‡	852.70	..	- 0.70	.
Abbey Nat Fd ‡	472.00	...	- 0.40	..
Abbey Nat Acc ‡	495.30	...	- 0.40	.
Investment Fd ‡	441.30	...	+ 0.60	...
Investment (A) ‡	422.30	..	+ 0.60	.
Equity ‡	1671.90	..	- 4.30	.
Equity Acc ‡	1593.90	...	- 4.00	.
Money Fund ‡	518.10	..	+ 0.40	..
-do- Acc ‡	493.30	...	+ 0.40	
Actuarial Fd ‡	736.20	..	+ 0.80	
Gilt-Edged Fd ‡	436.10	..	+ 1.30	..
-do- Acc ‡	436.10	..	+ 1.30	
Retire Annuity ‡	1342.00	...	..	.
Immed Annuity ‡	301.00		..	...
Bldg Soc Life ‡	244.50	.	+ 0.10	.
SUN LIFE OF CANADA				
Basingview, Basingstoke, Hants RG21 2DZ				
Dealing: 01256 841414				
Growth Acc ‡	1838.20	...	-32.80	...
Managed Acc ‡	1015.40	...	+ 7.50	..
Equity Account ‡	1510.00	...	-17.30	..
Mngd Fund Acc	462.80	487.20	+ 3.50	..
Equity Fund Acc	653.10	687.50	+ 7.70	.
Prop Fund Acc	277.60	292.20	- 0.60	.
Fixed Int Fd Acc	351.20	369.70	+ 5.00	...
Money Fund Acc	237.50	250.00	+ 0.20	..
Indx-Lnk Scs Ac	225.10	237.00	+ 3.30	...
Pers Pens Acc ‡	2374.60	...	+25.40	...
Pens Mngd Acc	1080.30	1137.20	+20.00	...
Pens Guarantee	291.50	306.90	+ 0.90	.
Pens Equity	429.80	452.40	+10.40	..
Pens Property	321.70	338.70	+ 0.60	...
Pens Fixed Int	338.40	356.20	+ 9.00	...
Pens Intl	293.60	309.00	+ 2.50	..
Pens Money	260.30	274.00	+ 0.40	...
Pens Indx-Lnkd	219.60	231.20	+ 6.10	.
SUN LIFE UNIT				
St James Barton, Bristol BS99 7SL				
0117 9426911				
Managed Acc	1062.50	1118.50	- 5.60	..
Property Acc	378.80	398.80	- 1.80	...
Equity Acc	1805.00	1900.00	-10.00	...
Fixed Int Acc	462.70	487.10	+ 0.40	..
Cash Acc	335.70	353.40	+ 0.30	
Amer Equity Acc	507.00	533.70	+ 2.40	
Japan Acc	283.10	298.10	- 0.10	.
Pacific Acc	400.60	421.70	- 4.90	...
Far Eastern Acc	871.30	917.10	-12.30	..
International Acc	680.80	716.70	- 4.30	...
Distribution Fund	299.60	315.40	+ 0.90	5.94
European	221.80	233.50	- 1.30	..
Deffrd Dist	195.50	205.80	+ 0.10	..
TSB LIFE LTD				
Charlton Place, Andover, Hants, SP10 1RE				
01264 345678				
Managed Fund	339.50	357.40	- 0.40	..
Property Fund	234.80	247.20	+ 0.30	...
Fixed Interest Fd	251.60	264.90	+ 0.60	.
Money Fund	215.50	227.00	+ 0.20	..
Equity Fund	449.00	472.70	- 0.50	...
WINDSOR LIFE				
Windsor House, Telford, Shropshire				
01952 292929				
Managed Bond	843.80	889.10	- 0.40	..
Money Fund	341.30	359.30	+ 0.30	..
Equity Fund	777.00	817.80	- 0.20	..
Fixed Interest	318.00	334.70	+ 0.40	..
Property Fund	370.60	390.10	...	...
Gresham Framlington				
American & Genl	767.50	808.70	- 9.20	..
Income	909.60	957.40	+ 0.30	..
International Gth	743.30	783.10	- 2.80	..
Capital Fund	786.20	828.50	+ 0.50	...
Recovery Fund	656.50	691.80	- 3.00	..
Japan & General	251.10	264.60	- 3.90	..
Formerly AEtna				
Life Funds				
Squirrel	19.41	20.43	+ 0.01	..
Bear	23.19	24.41	+ 0.02	..
Owl	25.87	27.23	- 0.10	..
Bull	21.75	22.89	- 0.08	
Stag	23.52	24.76	- 0.18	..
Gilt Edged	21.12	22.23	+ 0.02	
Deposit	16.84	17.73	+ 0.01	..
Pensions				
Squirrel	27.09	28.52	+ 0.03	..
Bear	33.29	35.04	- 0.02	.
Owl	36.74	38.67	- 0.19	..
Bull	29.17	30.71	- 0.09	..
Stag	31.34	32.99	- 0.30	..
Gilt Edged	27.38	28.82	- 0.06	..
Deposit	22.35	23.53	+ 0.02	..
Pre 1982 Series				
3-Way Fund	713.94		- 1.22	..
1982 Series				
UK Equity	431.37	454.07	- 1.28	...
N Amer Equity	371.94	391.57	+ 0.85	.
Far East Equity	424.09	446.41	- 0.84	.
Fixed	335.70	353.37	+ 0.37	.
Cash Deposit	220.22	231.81	[illegible]	...
Property	160.62	169.07	[illegible]	...
Special Opp	453.24	477.04	[illegible]	
Managed	375.85	395.63	- 0.71	.
Index-Linked Fd	210.09	221.15	- 0.17	..
Formerly Crown				
Life Mangd Acc	708.30	743.10	+ 1.90	..
Life Fxd Int Acc	422.30	444.50	+ 1.10	...
Life Equity Acc	£10.29	£10.79	+ 5.10	..
Life Money Acc	321.80	338.40	+ 0.30	..
Life Inv Tst Acc	926.70	972.40	+ 2.30	..
Life Intl Acc	556.80	583.70	- 3.40	..
Life High Inc Acc	955.30	£10.02	+ 4.90	...
Life Property Acc	255.50	268.90	+ 2.10	..
Crown Brit Inv A	1416.60	...	...	...
Brewin Equity	867.10	912.70	- 1.40	..

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هكذا من الأصل

Firm end to the week

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

1996 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
556	419	Allied Domecq	441½	+ 3	6.7	16.7
625	477	Bulmer (HP)	520	+ 2	3.3	17.4
131	81	Burn Stewart	81	− 1	7.7	17.5
775	615	Glenmorangie A	755		3.0	19.2
491½	411	Grand Met	485½	− 4	4.6	20.5
493	435	Guinness†	445		4.7	13.2
378	315	Highland Dist	339	1½	2.9	15.9
803	277½	Matthew Clark	309	4½	9.7	14.7
141	93	Merrydown W	115		3.0	10.3
2612½	1606¼	SA Breweries	1740½	+ 31½	2.0	

BANKS

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FOOD MANUFACTURERS

HEALTHCARE

HOUSEHOLD GOODS

INSURANCE

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

LEISURE & HOTELS

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OIL & GAS

OTHER FINANCIAL

PHARMACEUTICALS

PRINTING & PAPER

PROPERTY

RETAILERS, FOOD

RETAILERS, GENERAL

SUPPORT SERVICES

TELECOMMUNICATIONS

TEXTILES & APPAREL

TRANSPORT

WATER

1996 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
791	583	Yorkshire	615½		6.3	8.6

ALTERNATIVE INV MARKET

1996 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
87½	18	Abacus Recruit	84½	− 1	..	
213	95	Cole Mus	155	.	1.9	12.8
127½	58	Country Gdns	115	+ 7½	1.5	11.8
1700	860	Dawson Hldgs	1675	...	2.4	14.7
37¾	14	Freepages	34½	.	.	
117	92	Megalomedia	98½	.		.
475	22½	Memory Corp	63½	+ 10	..	
170	85¼	Old English Pub	160		0.8	69.9
445	292½	Pet City	337½	.	.	
595	520	Southern Newsp	546	+ 5	4.1	
79½	50	Southern Vectis	75½	..	3.1	17.5
340	122	Surrey Fr Inns†	340	..	0.8	...
79½	46	Trocadero	51	.	..	.

Source: FT Information

© USM; # Price at suspension; † Ex dividend; ‡ Ex scrip; ▲ Ex rights issue; ▼ Ex all; § Ex capital distribution; * Figures or report awaited. .. No significant data. Companies in bold are constituents of the FTSE 100 Index.

BRITISH FUNDS

SHORTS (under 5 years)

1996 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
103¼	100½	Conv 10% 1996	100⅝	...	9.96	5.71
101	100	Treas 7% 1997	100		6.94	5.94
107	100	Treas 13¼% 1997	101	.	12.99	5.81
107	101½	Exch 10½% 1997	101½		10.33	5.81
107	102¾	Treas 8¾% 1997	102¾		8.55	5.97
114	102	Exch 15% 1997	108¾		13.78	6.03
108¼	104	Exch 9¾% 1998	104	.	9.35	6.13
109	100½	Treas 7¼% 1998	101½		7.14	6.20
104¼	99	Treas 6¾% 1995-98	100		6.75	6.09
116	111	Treas 14% 1998-01	111	.	12.54	6.27
122	116½	Treas 15½% 1998	116		13.29	6.35
114	110	Exch 12% 1998	110¼		10.84	6.43
108	105	Treas 9½% 1999	106	.	8.94	6.44
110	110	Exch 12¼% 1999	112		10.86	6.52
112	108	Treas 10½% 1999	108		9.60	6.55
99¼	96	Treas 6% 1999	98	..	6.06	6.49
112	108	Conv 10¼% 1999	109		9.32	6.63
108	104	Conv 9% 2000	107		8.41	6.68
105½	101	Treas 8% 2000	104½		7.66	6.77
124	119	Treas 13% 2000	120		10.81	6.77
114	109	Treas 10% 2001	111		8.96	6.89

MEDIUMS (5 to 15 years)

1996 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
101	96½	Treas 7% 2001	100	...	6.98	6.91
114¾	108	Treas 9¾% 2002	112½		8.67	7.11
105	99	Treas 8% 2003	104		7.66	7.24
117	39	Treas 10% 2003	115		8.69	7.13
121	114	Treas 11½% 2001-04	116		9.83	6.99
84½	78½	Fund 3½% 1999-04	83½		4.17	7.26
114	107	Conv 9½% 2004	112		8.42	7.28
97	91	Treas 6¾% 2004	95		7.00	7.36
108	107½	Treas 8½% 2005	107		7.94	7.41
114	108	Conv 9½% 2005	113 †		8.41	7.34
131¼	123	Treas 12½% 2003-05	128½		9.72	7.30
101	94	Treas 7½% 2006	100		7.48	7.47
103¼	96	Treas 7¾% 2006	101		7.62	7.42
104	97¼	Treas 8% 2002-06	103		7.78	7.50
125	118	Treas 11¾% 2003-07	122		9.60	7.30
108	101	Treas 8½% 2007	107		7.94	7.53
112	105	Treas 9% 2008	110 †		8.17	7.59
104½	96	Treas 8% 2009	103		7.75	7.65

LONGS (over 15 years)

1996 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
88	81½	Treas 6¼% 2010	87¼		7.16	7.75
112	104½	Conv 9% 2011	110	..	8.11	7.73
113	104	Treas 9% 2012	111		8.09	7.77
82½	75½	Treas 5½% 2008-12	81		6.77	7.55
103	96	Treas 8% 2013	101½		7.86	7.81
101	93	Treas 7¾% 2012-15	99		7.79	7.82
103	95	Treas 8% 2015	101		7.85	7.81
111¼	102½	Treas 8¾% 2017	108		8.03	7.86
141½	130	Exch 12% 2013-17	138		8.64	7.83
103½	95	Tr 8% 2021	102		7.84	7.81

UNDATED

1996 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
45½	41¼	War Ln 3½%	44		7.85	
32	29½	Treas 2½%	31½		7.97	
50	46½	Consols 4%	49		8.03	.

INDEX-LINKED on projected inflation of:

1996 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	10%	5%
116	111	Treas IL 4⅝% 1998	114		0.21	2.14
184	176	Treas IL 2½% 2001	184		2.56	3.17
180	171	Treas IL 2½% 2003	180		2.83	3.30
118	112	Treas IL 4⅜% 2004	118 †		2.93	3.34
190	179	Treas IL 2% 2006	190		3.07	3.39
171	161	Treas IL 2½% 2009	171		3.19	3.46
177	166	Treas IL 2½% 2011	177		3.27	3.50
146	136	Treas IL 2½% 2013	145	.	3.32	3.53
155	145	Treas IL 2½% 2016	154		3.39	3.58
149	138	Treas IL 2½% 2020	148		3.44	3.60
124	115	Treas IL 2½% 2024	123		3.44	3.59
122	113	Treas IL 4⅛% 2030	121		3.44	3.59

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THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

	Sell	Buy	Wkly +/-	Yld %
AIB UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD				
01895 259 783				
Gruland Amer	227.30	240.50	- 0.80	0.14
Gruland Equity	287.50	305.80	+ 2.50	1.79
Gruland Euro	272.40	288.30	+ 0.40	0.56
Gruland East Bal	134.90	139.80	+ 0.70	2.52
Gruland Gilt	76.30	78.82	+ 0.27	6.33
Gruland Japan	164.60	174.10	- 3.00	..
AXA EQUITY & LAW UNIT TST MGRS				
01203 553 231				
General Acc	683.30	727.00†	+ 0.10	2.41
General Inc	570.40	606.90†	+ 0.20	2.41
UK Growth Acc	469.00	499.00†	+ 1.40	2.57
UK Growth Inc	303.50	322.90†	- 3.80	2.57
Higher Inc Acc	812.30	864.20†	+ 6.70	4.02
Higher Inc Inc	432.70	460.40†	- 10.70	4.02
Gilts/Fxd Int Acc	214.90	228.90†	+ 0.40	5.74
Gilts/Fxd Int Inc	94.07	99.35†	+ 0.17	5.74
Nth America	386.40	411.10†	- 5.30	.
Europe	365.80	389.20†	+ 1.10	0.52
Brit Excell	92.68	98.58	+ 0.31	2.71
Brit Fxdpts Acc	116.50	124.00†	+ 0.10	4.52
Brit Fxdpts Inc	77.92	82.90†	+ 0.08	4.52
Global Opps	105.10	111.90	- 1.50	0.03
Balanced Acc	64.22	68.32†	- 0.17	2.64
Balanced Inc	59.90	63.73†	- 0.16	2.64
Japan Acc	44.33	47.17†	- 1.31	
Pac Basin Acc	401.20	426.80†	- 7.70	0.98
ABBEY UNIT TST MGRS				
0345 717 373				
Gilts & Fixed Int	132.60	140.70†	+ 0.40	6.94
High Inc Equity	183.40	195.10†	+ 0.80	4.40
Worldwide Bond	284.50	301.70	- 0.30	4.88
American Growth	390.90	417.80	+ 2.70	0.30
Asian Pacific	324.40	347.00	- 1.00	0.04
Assets & Earnings	313.20	335.00	+ 0.20	2.69
Euro Capital Acc	189.50	202.70	.	0.78
Extra Inc	43.58	46.36†	- 0.08	7.73
General	287.00	305.30	+ 0.10	2.87
Global Opps	69.60	74.25	- 0.16	0.54
Japan	114.80	121.90	- 1.70	
Managed Inc	48.51	51.61†	+ 0.05	4.65
Mastertrust	171.00	182.90		1.00
US Emerging Cos	220.20	234.30	- 0.10	
Ethical	82.57	87.84	+ 0.13	2.42
International	138.60	148.50	- 0.50	0.29
Dividend & Growth	68.69	73.07	+ 0.27	4.20
Global Gwth & Sec	73.44	78.48		2.33
Latin America	67.85	72.18	+ 0.84	.
Capital Reserve	145.60	145.70		4.80
ABERFORTH UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0131 220 0733				
UK Small Cos	2365.00	2460.00	+ 1.00	.
ABTRUST UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0800 833 580				
Amer Inc & Growth	81.07	84.24†	- 0.67	0.15
Emerging Mkts	73.47	77.56	- 0.96	0.04
European	152.60	158.70	- 0.60	
Exempt	1106.00	1167.00†	+ 17.00	1.60
Extra Income #	46.92	50.09†	+ 0.11	6.49
Far East Emg Eco	130.80	137.20	- 2.80	0.45
Fixed Interest #	25.74	26.77	+ 0.12	8.87
Fund Inv Tst	152.40	160.90†	- 0.40	9.54
Japan	175.20	182.20	- 3.80	
Latin American	61.98	64.51	+ 0.10	0.75
Pacific	84.69	89.14	- 1.06	0.29
Property Share	71.65	75.21	- 0.31	2.34
UK Emerging Cos	71.30	77.06	+ 0.03	1.25
UK Growth	54.67	57.63†	+ 0.48	2.04
Aber World Port #	83.54	85.15	- 0.18	3.40
Ethical	78.36	81.49	.	2.17
Aberdeen Gilt Inc #	50.88	51.02†	- 0.02	7.26
For AEGON see Magnesia				
AIRWAYS UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0171 258 5866				
Resid Property #	98.12	105.60		5.30
ALLCHURCHES INV MGMT SVS LTD				
01452 305 958				
Amity Income	91.98	97.59†	+ 0.04	2.24
Income Builder Inc	82.17	87.42	+ 0.27	3.20
ALLIED DUNBAR UNIT TSTS PLC				
IFA dlg: 01793 610 366 Client dlg: 01793 514 514				
Balanced Trusts				
Growth & Income	290.90	310.90†	+ 1.00	2.99
Capital	509.80	544.90†	+ 0.90	1.75
Balanced	851.00	909.70	- 2.70	2.29
Accumulator	1635.00	1748.00†	+ 5.00	1.78
Income Trusts				
American Income	62.40	66.50	- 0.38	2.40
High Income	455.90	498.00†	+ 2.60	3.80
Equity Income	265.40	283.50	+ 0.50	3.92
High Yield	288.00	307.80	+ 1.30	3.92
Govt Securities	34.31	36.21†	- 0.91	6.03
International Trusts				
Amer Spec Sits	219.60	231.50†	+ 0.20	0.06
European Growth	54.12	57.66	- 0.91	0.07
International	189.40	202.40	- 1.50	0.11
Japan	195.70	209.20	- 5.10	
Pacific	414.00	442.50	- 2.30	
Secs of America	605.10	644.70	- 0.70	0.12
Wwide Asset Val	56.69	60.60†	- 0.39	0.02
Specialist Trusts				
Asset Value	656.40	701.80	- 2.00	1.95
Conv & Gilt	50.73	54.29†	+ 0.23	3.90
Smaller Cos	308.60	327.20	- 2.10	1.02
2nd Smaller Cos	197.90	211.50†	- 1.90	0.87
Recovery	173.00	184.50†	+ 0.10	1.53
Met Min & Cdty	166.40	177.70	- 1.40	0.18
Oseas Earnings	435.70	465.70	+ 1.70	1.04
Technology	232.90	248.50†	- 0.40	
UK Special Sits	593.90	634.80†	+ 7.50	0.39
B & C E UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
01293 526 911				
Cntrctd Out Pens	120.20	124.80		2.04
Foundtn Persl Pens	71.09	73.85		1.44
BSI-THORNHILL UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
0171 600 0033				
Capital	86.50	92.02	- 0.15	1.26
International	71.38	75.94	- 0.45	
BAILLIE GIFFORD & CO LTD				
0131 222 4242				
America	354.30	373.70†	+ 0.90	
Bond	119.10	125.20†	+ 0.30	6.67
Brit Smlr Cos	119.00	126.60	- 0.70	1.77
Com & Gen #	70.43	74.95	- 0.16	5.22
Europe	290.50	308.20	- 2.20	0.58
Euro Smlr Cos	126.90	134.80	- 0.30	0.59
Income Gwth	367.30	390.70†	- 5.60	4.96
Japan	307.60	327.00†	- 4.70	
Latin American	88.13	93.75	+ 0.44	0.74
Pacific	114.30	121.60	- 0.90	1.00
UK Smllr Cos	59.81	63.63	- 0.37	1.26
Japan Fd	638.90	657.50	- 10.80	
Mngd Fd	205.50	218.20	- 0.30	2.76
BANK OF IRELAND FUND MGRS LTD				
0171 489 8673				
Brit & Oseas	376.30	398.00	- 3.20	0.89
Capital Gwth	130.60	138.10	+ 0.80	3.13
Wwide Opps	221.80	234.60	- 3.20	0.93
BARCLAYS UNICORN LTD				
0181 522 4000				
Balanced Trusts				
Best Inv Fd Inc	440.50	461.00	+ 2.10	2.34
European Bd Inc	98.30	101.70	+ 0.30	6.63
Exempt	85.17	90.73	+ 0.80	2.76
500	509.50	557.70†	- 2.60	2.37
General	330.50	353.90†	+ 1.70	2.50
Property	245.50	263.40	- 0.10	5.20
Trustee	230.60	246.70	+ 0.70	2.31
Income Trusts				
Cash Inc	100.10	100.10†	+ 0.10	5.11
Distribution @#	114.10	114.70†	+ 0.30	6
Extra Income #	137.50	147.00†	+ 1.10	4.77
Gilt & Fxd Int	59.28	61.35†	+ 0.22	7.75
Income #	597.80	639.40	+ 4.30	4.54
Income Builder #	69.93	74.59†	+ 0.46	5.28
Intl Income	71.69	76.27	- 0.19	2.63
Growth Trusts - UK				
Capital	144.90	155.00	+ 1.80	1.98
FTSE 100	102.70	109.40	+ 0.80	2.59
Leisure	168.30	192.70	+ 1.00	0.73
Recovery	502.90	538.90	+ 1.90	2.63
Smllr Cos Inc	58.97	63.24	+ 0.04	2.29
Special Sits	402.30	430.90	+ 2.90	1.31
Growth Trusts - Overseas				
America	175.40	186.20	- 0.50	0.41
F East Emg Acc	288.60	305.80	- 0.20	2.04
Far East Gwth	172.60	182.90	- 0.10	2.04
Euro Gwth Inc	196.70	208.80	+ 0.30	0.43
-do- Accum	213.90	227.10	+ 0.30	0.43
Japan	145.90	154.50	- 2.40	.
-do- Accum	147.80	156.20	- 2.50	
Japan Spec Sits	68.29	72.45	- 0.98	.
Worldwide	200.70	213.00	- 0.50	0.48
BARING FUND MANAGERS LTD				
0171 214 1004				
American Growth	135.60	143.20	- 1.00	..
Amer Smlr Cos	173.10	185.10	- 1.40	..
Convertibles	60.91	65.24†	+ 0.72	4.60
Eastern	299.90	322.30	- 1.80	0.30
Equity Income #	100.50	107.60	+ 0.89	4.20
European Growth	364.10	387.30	- 3.00	0.80
Europe	363.40	387.50	- 4.10	0.80
German Growth	88.94	94.21	- 1.28	0.50
Global Bond	72.35	78.11	+ 0.28	6.20
Global Growth	148.50	157.80	- 0.80	0.40
Japan Growth	192.10	204.40	- 3.80	
Japan Sunrise	156.60	166.20	- 3.60	
Korea Trust	64.94	70.02	+ 3.04	
Portfolio	148.10	158.30†	+ 0.30	2.00
-do- Accum	299.70	320.10	+ 0.50	2.00
UK Growth	107.50	115.30	+ 1.20	2.60
UK Smaller Cos	99.85	107.10	- 1.10	1.90
Select Managers	90.29	96.93	- 0.25	1.00
BLACKSTONE FRANKS UT MGRS LTD				
0171 250 3300				
Intl Gwth Port Inc	91.10	96.91	- 0.54	..
Special Oppor Inc	60.71	64.59	- 0.59	.
BRITANNIA FUND MGRS LTD				
0141 223 6020				
Balanced Growth	143.20	151.54†	+ 0.88	1.40
-do- Accum	166.70	176.41	+ 1.02	1.40
Smaller Cos	156.31	165.40	- 0.31	0.88
Higher Yield #	57.99	61.38†	+ 0.88	4.08
American Gth Inc	103.79	109.83	- 0.08	
European Growth	168.67	178.49†	+ 0.02	..
-do- Accum	172.08	182.07	+ 0.03	
Global Bond Inc #	26.61	27.56	- 0.09	4.52
Mngd Ptflio Inc	53.10	55.17†	- 0.84	1.40
-do- Accum	56.11	58.29	- 0.87	1.40
Int Spec Opps	168.36	178.15	+ 0.25	.
Pacific Gth	146.11	154.61	+ 2.48	
UK General #	97.59	103.27	+ 0.89	2.77
-do- Accum #	104.41	110.48	+ 0.95	2.77
Japan	56.53	59.82	- 1.94	.
Gilt & Fixed Int #	102.00	105.70†	+ 0.41	8.20
BURRAGE UNIT TST MGMT LTD				
0171 480 7210				
Short Dated Gilt	66.98	67.84	+ 0.03	6.40
CIS UNIT MANAGERS LTD				
0161 837 5060				
Environ	192.20	202.30	- 1.40	1.73
UK Growth	215.00	226.30	+ 0.80	1.95
UK Income	148.90	156.80†	+ 0.60	4.41
CANADA LIFE MGMT (UK) LTD				
01707 822 100				
Can Gen Dist	238.50	252.70	+ 0.30	1.57
-do- Income Dist	128.90	136.60	+ 0.80	3.66
-do- Accum	413.90	438.60	+ 2.80	3.66
Gilt & Fxd Int	41.29	43.39	- 0.06	6.27
Growth Units	258.90	276.40†	+ 1.30	2.03
Bond	177.50	188.80†	+ 0.80	6.90
Intl Growth	248.00	264.00	- 2.80	0.18
North American	262.20	279.10	- 2.80	0.18
Far East	305.60	325.80	- 3.80	0.67
UK Smaller Cos	224.50	240.30	- 0.50	0.97
European	98.54	104.40	- 0.10	0.61
Japanese Growth	45.65	48.45	- 0.68	..
High Income	220.70	236.00†	+ 1.70	4.24
CAPEL-CURE MYERS UT MGMT LTD				
0161 831 7433 Enq 0161 831 7433 Dlg 0161 831 7455				
American & Gen	224.10	238.30†	- 1.20	
European Inc	95.84	101.62	- 0.41	0.47
Smaller Cos (4-1)	109.40	116.40†	+ 0.40	1.51
Growth	555.80	591.70†	+ 3.30	1.76
Income & Growth #	453.60	483.20	+ 2.60	3.83
-do- Accum #	700.70	745.50	+ 4.40	3.83
Japan & Gen	64.85	68.80	- 1.57	
Master Portfolio	£122.35	£126.44†	+ 47.00	1.80
-do- Accum	£151.26	£156.32	+ 58.00	1.80
Special Sits	130.00	138.30	+ 0.50	1.79
High Yield	£15.18	£15.65	+ 10.00	4.23

	Sell	Buy	Wkly +/-	Yld %
CAZENOVE UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
0171 606 0708				
Cazenove Portfolio	103.25	110.19	+ 0.11	2.31
American Portfolio	125.22	133.11	- 0.79	0.77
European Portfolio	136.87	145.40†	- 1.13	0.66
High Income	52.94	53.07	+ 0.17	6.91
Japanese Portfolio	66.55	70.67	- 1.03	.
Pacific Portfolio	158.18	170.00	- 1.38	1.39
UK Equity	97.83	104.62†	+ 0.10	3.03
UK Equity & Bd	59.18	62.72	+ 0.42	6.08
CENT BD OF FIN OF CHURCH OF ENG				
0171 588 1815				
Inv Fund	787.37	799.17	+ 11.04	4.18
Fxd Int Sec	158.06	158.72	+ 2.25	9.01
COIF CHARITY FUNDS				
0171 588 1815				
Investment Inc	773.48	785.16	- 1.34	4.24
Investment Acc	£35.86	£36.30	- 6.13	
Fixed Int Inc	128.12	128.64	+ 1.45	9.02
Fixed Int Acc	233.40	234.43	+ 2.64	
CITY FINANCIAL UT MGRS LTD				
0171 407 5966				
Beckman Intl	91.70	96.67†	+ 1.35	2.97
Beck Bio-Tech	46.48	50.18	- 0.10	
Acorn Ethical Tst	188.56	198.00	- 1.80	0.43
City Fin Assets	82.68	86.82†	- 1.59	1.51
City Fin America	112.35	117.98	+ 0.76	
City Fin Intl	93.40	98.08	- 0.48	0.44
City Fin Japan	140.28	147.31	- 2.64	.
Focus Nat Cap	331.72	352.89	+ 6.96	2.40
Beckley Wrld Gth	145.19	153.99†	- 0.48	
J Sld Inc/Gth Inc	58.48	59.31	- 0.15	3.25
Stone Utilities	56.33	57.44	- 1.06	6.34
CITY OF LONDON UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
0171 711 0771 Admin. 01277 227 300				
Emerging Markets	57.18	60.87	- 0.56	.
CLERICAL MEDICAL UT MGRS LTD				
0345 772 233				
American Gwth	81.44	86.64	- 0.80	
Dragon Growth	71.76	76.74	- 0.64	0.45
Equity High Inc	90.20	96.07†	+ 0.64	4.03
-do- Accum	130.56	139.92	+ 0.93	4.03
Extra Income Inc	26.60	28.01†	+ 0.08	7.32
Extra Income Acc	29.28	30.83	+ 0.10	7.32
European Gwth	63.79	67.68	- 0.56	0.88
Evergreen	32.01	34.23	- 0.15	0.02
General Equity	105.68	112.14	+ 0.38	2.91
Japan Growth	47.98	51.04	- 1.03	.
Pedigree Gwth	65.06	68.77	+ 0.38	2.31
Pad Sm Cos Inc	38.19	41.06	- 0.02	1.46
-do- Accum	40.46	43.50	- 0.03	1.46
Retirement Inc #	27.59	29.80	+ 0.09	5.72
Special Sits	46.90	50.43	- 0.18	2.38
UK & Overseas	60.30	63.98	- 0.07	0.69
COLONIAL UT MGRS LTD				
01634 898 000				
Balanced	70.32	73.25	+ 0.18	4.12
Capital	84.45	87.96	+ 0.19	2.60
High Income	52.56	54.75	+ 0.21	6.63
Top 50	56.95	59.32	+ 0.13	2.58
COMMERCIAL UNION TRUST MGRS LTD				
0181 686 9818				
PRESTIGE PORTFOLIO (PPT FUNDS)				
Income Funds				
Equity Inc	195.24	203.38†	+ 1.01	4.52
Long Gilt	43.57	45.35†	+ 0.15	6.07
Monthly Inc Plus	50.10	52.19	+ 0.20	8.58
Preference Share	46.88	48.83†	+ 0.04	7.98
Balanced Funds				
High Yield	142.00	147.92†	+ 0.40	5.77
Managed Fund	77.86	81.13†	- 0.11	2.68
UK Growth Funds				
Smaller Cos	53.68	55.90	+ 0.15	1.70
-do- Accum	63.43	66.07	+ 0.16	1.70
UK & General	98.68	102.79†	+ 0.50	2.88
-do- Accum	129.78	135.19†	+ 0.86	2.88
UK Growth	198.47	208.74	+ 0.73	1.36
International Growth Funds				
Europe Growth	212.80	221.67	- 1.26	0.65
Far Eastern Gth	136.15	141.82	- 1.86	0.02
Global Bond	80.20	83.54†	- 0.26	5.93
Japan Growth	110.00	114.58	- 1.70	
North Amer Gth	239.94	249.94	- 1.17	
Quantal Growth	84.48	88.00	- 1.26	0.25
Worldwide Growth	74.22	77.31	- 0.55	
OTHER CU TRUSTS (NON PPT FUNDS)				
Deposit Fund	91.54	91.54†	+ 0.08	5.11
Homemaker Fund	92.75	96.67	+ 0.03	1.63
Quilter Fund	158.60	168.72	+ 0.66	1.89
CONSISTENT UNIT TST MGMT CO LTD				
0171 407 5966				
Consistent UT	36.19	38.70	+ 0.10	4.29
COOKE (HENRY) INV FUNDS LTD				
0800 526 358				
Growth	180.70	192.20	- 0.40	1.94
Income	73.66	78.36	+ 0.44	4.63
Eurofund	76.06	80.91	- 0.42	1.17
Recovery	192.10	204.40	+ 1.50	2.21
CO-OP PENSION FDS UT MGRS LTD				
0171 383 9494				
Equity Dist	595.30	1011.30	.	3.38
CREDIT SUISSE INV FDS (UK) LTD				
01277 530 370				
Fellowship Tst	112.00	119.10†	+ 0.50	1.15
Income #	294.80	313.60	+ 1.40	4.03
-do- Accum #	771.60	820.80	- 3.70	4.03
Smaller Cos	237.60	252.70	- 0.80	0.85
-do- Accum	296.00	313.80	- 1.00	0.85
Gilt Portfolio	103.80	110.40	+ 0.20	1.28
High Inc Port #	84.72	90.12	+ 0.38	4.22
DIMENSIONAL TST MGMT LTD				
0171 470 1634				
Euro Small Cos	1705.20	1757.60	+ 24.80	
Japan Small Cos	1163.20	1162.30	- 32.70	0.01
UK Small Cos	2217.00	2312.30	- 0.70	2.86
US Small Cos	2185.30	2260.10	- 1.00	0.83
DISCRETIONARY UNIT FUND MGRS				
0171 377 8819				
Disc Inc	234.60	246.90	+ 1.90	3.03
EAGLE STAR UNIT MGRS LTD				
01242 577 555				
UK Balanced Inc	174.90	186.00	+ 1.10	1.74
UK High Inc Inc	182.40	194.00	+ 1.00	3.67
-do- Accum	246.30	262.00	+ 1.40	3.67
UK Pref & F I Inc	60.28	63.96	+ 0.25	5.78
Environmtl Opps	99.27	105.60	+ 0.10	0.95
UK Smlr Cos #	70.26	74.74	+ 0.09	0.80
Extra Income Inc	49.80	52.97	+ 0.20	7.80
EDINBURGH UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
0345 090 526				
American	177.60	188.00	- 1.30	0.43
Convertibles #	23.41	24.87†	+ 0.23	5.63
Equity Income #	144.90	154.00†	+ 0.40	3.90
EuroFund	64.00	67.72	- 0.65	0.53
Financial	56.88	60.41†	- 0.26	1.49
Growth & Inc #	294.30	312.70	+ 2.00	2.80
High Dist #	183.90	195.40	+ 1.20	4.35
International	439.00	466.40	- 6.90	0.11
Int Cap Inc	104.60	111.10†	- 1.60	3.02
Latin American	34.02	36.15	- 0.06	.
Pacific	81.83	86.73†	- 1.04	.
Pen High Inc	22.38	23.79†	+ 0.12	7.57
Tokyo	217.20	228.90†	- 3.10	..
UK Smaller Cos	257.20	273.30	- 0.30	1.10
Dunedin Unit Trusts				
European Gwth	338.00	357.10	- 4.70	1.01
Jap Smllr Cos	431.30	457.70	- 8.20	...
Nth Amer	431.70	457.50	+ 1.80	0.64
UK Inc & Gwth	252.30	270.09†	+ 1.80	2.75
ELY PLACE UNIT MGRS LTD				
0171 242 0242				
BFI Director Digs	119.42	127.83	+ 1.00	1.10
Growth Acc	262.77	280.39	+ 1.75	1.10
Income	615.50	650.38	.	6.08
ENDURANCE FUND MGMT LTD				
0171 373 7361				
Endurance Fd	230.30	245.00†	- 0.70	0.99
EQUITABLE UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
01296 431 480				
European	92.36	97.21	- 1.21	2.11
Ethical Tst	46.85	51.21	+ 0.22	0.88
Far Eastern	305.43	321.51	- 3.79	1.53
High Income	143.10	150.63	+ 0.53	4.82
UK Index Trckg	52.15	54.89	+ 0.18	3.17
Intl Growth	144.77	152.39	- 1.20	0.38
North American	149.86	157.77†	- 0.86	1.65
Pelican	143.14	150.67†	- 2.36	3.15
Smaller Cos	72.88	76.72	- 0.48	2.83
Special Sits	91.49	96.31†	+ 0.19	2.46
Tst of Inv Tsts	220.27	231.86	- 0.86	1.26
EVERMORE FUND MGMT LTD				
0171 407 5966				
Smaller Cos Inc	234.81	249.80†	- 1.37	1.49
Smaller Cos Acc	424.00	451.06†	- 2.47	1.49
Recovery	58.49	62.22	- 0.29	1.70
Recovery Acc	60.43	64.29	- 0.30	1.70
EXETER FUND MANAGERS LTD				
01392 412 144				
Capital Growth	94.03	101.13†	- 0.14	.
Fd of Inv Tsts	53.13	56.67	.	0.51
High Income #	38.75	41.53†	+ 0.07	11.08
Warrant	48.34	52.54†	- 0.13	.
Zero Preference	45.16	47.91	+ 0.30	
FAMILY INVESTMENT MGMT LTD				
01273 220 707				
Family Asset Tst	94.57	100.60†	+ 0.50	2.60
United Charities	313.50	333.50†	+ 3.20	2.36
FIDELITY INVESTMENT SERVS LTD				
Callfree: Private Clients: 0800 414 161				
Cash Fund				
Cash Fund	100.00	100.00	..	5.20
Bond Funds				
Intl Bond	29.00	30.09	- 0.07	5.17
Strategic Inc	27.30	28.55	+ 0.10	5.69
Income Funds				
High Income	26.89	28.22†	+ 0.15	5.46
Income Plus	132.60	141.00†	+ 1.00	3.99
European Income	50.33	53.51	- 0.07	2.54
UK Div Gdn	31.75	33.76†	+ 0.25	2.22
Equity Funds				
ASEAN	60.49	64.53	- 3.44	
American	330.60	350.30	- 1.00	
Amer Spec Sits	189.20	201.80	- 1.30	
Japan Smaller Cos	33.08	35.28	- 0.83	
European	233.00	247.80†	+ 0.70	0.55
European Opps	81.81	86.99	- 0.18	0.02
Global Priv	30.91	32.87	- 0.17	0.34
UK Growth	124.50	132.40	+ 1.40	1.47
Growth & Inc	179.80	191.20	+ 1.50	2.43
Intl PEP	48.45	51.52	+ 0.07	1.06
Japan Spec Sits	87.03	92.46	- 2.13	.
Japan	173.50	184.00	- 3.60	.
Managed Intl	357.00	378.90	- 1.50	0.49
MoneyBuilder	67.43	71.70	- 0.11	.
Recovery	62.89	66.87	+ 0.69	1.61
South E Asia	186.00	198.50†	+ 0.60	0.98
Special Sits	731.60	778.10†	+ 2.60	0.57
Specialist Funds				
Cash Accum Units	118.12	118.12	+ 0.09	5.30
FLEMING PRIVATE FUND MGMT LTD				
0171 814 2700				
Balanced #	152.40	155.10†	- 0.50	1.54
Finsbury Prf Inc #	96.77	98.14†	+ 0.38	2.82
Cap Ptflio	166.50	169.50	+ 0.40	0.84
General Opps	148.10	149.70	+ 1.10	3.91
Growth Inc	38.21	38.83	+ 0.24	0.84
Private Portfolio	496.40	504.80†	- 0.20	0.87
FOREIGN & COLONIAL UNIT MGT				
Dlg 01277 690 300 Admin/Val 01277 690 350				
Euro Smlr Cos	153.60	163.40	- 0.10	0.38
Emrg Asian	138.20	148.80†	- 3.60	
High Income	21.42	22.76†	+ 0.05	9.69
UK Income	115.30	123.00	+ 0.40	4.02
US Smaller Cos	436.10	465.30†	- 4.20	...
For Foster & Braithwaite see [illegible]				

	Sell	Buy	Wkly +/-	Yld %
FRAMLINGTON UNIT MGMT LTD				
Enq 0171 330 6500 Dealing 0345 775511				
American Growth	82.65	87.95	.	...
-do- Accum	82.65	87.95	.	..
Amer Smllr Cos	721.90	772.10†	- 9.50	
-do- Accum	737.40	788.70†	- 9.80	...
Capital Tst	400.80	426.50†	+ 1.00	1.50
-do- Accum	590.80	626.50†	+ 1.40	1.50
Conti Smllr Cos	62.81	68.16	- 0.01	1.09
-do- Accum	65.97	70.38	- 0.02	1.09
Convertible	145.70	155.60	+ 3.10	5.60
-do- Accum	315.50	335.50	+ 8.70	5.60
Emerging Markets	66.94	71.32	- 1.61	0.30
-do- Accum	67.17	71.78	- 1.62	0.30
European	152.70	161.90	- 0.37	0.50
-do- Accum	161.80	171.40	- 0.40	0.50
Extra Income	394.60	418.80	+ 1.80	4.45
-do- Accum	626.30	668.40	+ 2.90	4.45
Financial	178.30	189.70	+ 0.20	0.46
-do- Accum	189.50	201.80	+ 0.30	0.46
Gilt Trust	63.76	65.74†	+ 0.10	6.79
-do- Accum	99.15	102.20†	+ 0.20	6.79
Health Fund Inc	266.40	284.60	- 4.40	..
-do- Accum	266.40	284.60	- 4.40	
Income & Growth	234.80	249.90	+ 0.20	3.61
-do- Accum	372.20	396.00	+ 0.50	3.61
Intl Growth	444.80	473.40	- 4.60	..
-do- Accum	493.90	525.70	- 5.00	.
Japan & Gen	166.10	176.80	- 3.40	.
-do- Accum	167.70	178.30	- 3.50	..
Monthly Inc #	197.90	210.50†	- 0.30	4.38
-do- Accum #	197.90	210.50†	.	4.38
Managed Port Inc	123.70	130.20	- 0.30	1.38
-do- Accum	134.30	141.40	- 0.40	1.38
Quarterly Income #	58.08	62.28	+ 0.03	5.28
-do- Accum #	66.73	71.55	+ 0.04	5.28
Recovery	350.10	374.40	- 5.90	.
-do- Accum	413.30	442.00	- 7.00	..
UK Growth	67.37	71.87	+ 0.08	2.76
-do- Accum	73.06	77.72	+ 0.09	2.76
FRIENDS PROVIDENT UNIT TRUSTS				
Dealing 01722 715635 Enq 01722 715634				
FP American	62.42	66.54	- 0.14	0.47
FP Am Smllr Cos	213.00	227.20	- 2.60	.
FP Asian Growth	280.10	298.70	- 5.70	..
FP Australian	423.50	451.70	- 3.70	..
FP Equity Dist	466.20	497.20	+ 1.90	2.40
-do- Accum	810.70	810.95	+ 4.00	2.40
FP Euro Gth	291.60	311.00	+ 0.50	..
-do- Accum	319.10	340.30	+ 0.70	...
FP Intl Bond	60.03	63.52	- 0.01	4.42
FP Intl Gth Dist	38.66	41.23	- 0.15	0.13
-do- Accum	58.44	60.20	- 0.21	0.13
FP Pac Basin Acc	219.40	234.00	- 3.20	..
FP Income #	80.06	84.08	+ 0.01	5.05
-do- Accum #	209.80	223.70		5.05
FP Jap Smllr Cos	294.60	314.20	- 5.20	..
FP Monthly Dist #	76.01	81.07	- 1.05	4.98
FP Stlg Deposit	100.10	100.10	+ 0.10	5.05
FP Telmo	80.40	85.76	- 1.29	.
FP UK Focus	42.88	45.73	+ 0.21	2.00
FP UK Growth	302.90	216.40	+ 1.10	2.15
-do- Accum	409.00	436.20	+ 2.30	2.15
Stewardship Dist	437.90	467.00	+ 2.80	1.35
-do- Accum	549.00	585.50	+ 3.80	1.35
Stwdshp Inc Dist #	82.42	87.91	+ 0.47	4.65
-do- Accum #	112.70	120.20	+ 0.79	4.65
N Am Stshp Dist	129.40	138.00	- 0.90	0.22
-do- Accum	139.10	148.30	- 1.80	0.22
FP Managed Portfolio Service				
Capital Gwth Acc	130.30	138.60	- 0.30	1.57
Open Cap Gth Acc	133.10	141.50	- 0.20	0.15
Cap Gth Inc Inc #	120.80	128.50	- 0.10	3.24
Cap Gth Inc Acc #	128.00	136.10	- 0.20	3.24
Opn Cp Gth Ic Ic #	122.90	130.70	+ 0.60	3.90
Opn Cp Gth Ic Ac #	131.30	139.60	+ 0.60	3.90
GA UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0345 581 106/7				
GANDA	297.40	314.50	+ 0.80	1.87
Cash	49.63	50.37	+ 0.04	4.77
Growth Portfolio	88.74	94.06	- 0.60	0.51
Income Portfolio	71.18	75.27	+ 0.04	3.13
GEM DOLPHIN INV MGRS LTD				
0171 238 6441				
Special Sits	236.10	252.50	- 2.90	1.04
Dividend	99.67	106.60	+ 0.40	4.01
Int Gth & Inc	260.50	278.68	+ 0.40	3.10
UK & Gen	51.72	55.32†	+ 0.29	2.63
Fund of Funds	75.64	80.90†	+ 0.09	..
GT GLOBAL FUND MGMT LTD				
Inv 0800 212274 Dealing 0171 626 9431				
American Smllr Cos	264.60	280.00		0.12
European Gth	735.50	786.30	- 8.90	0.61
Euro Eq & Bd Inc	55.20	58.47†	- 0.12	5.16
-do- Accum	62.78	66.50	- 0.14	5.16
Far East & Gen	272.60	291.80	- 0.70	.
German Growth	145.80	154.60	- 0.60	..
High Yield #	50.57	53.43	+ 0.24	7.63
-do- Accum #	55.72	58.87	+ 0.26	7.63
Income Inc	199.20	213.10†	+ 2.70	4.03
-do- Accum	227.60	243.50	+ 3.00	4.03
Intl Growth	386.90	413.00	- 2.70	0.30
Intl Income	96.25	102.00	+ 0.42	2.91
Japan Growth	432.00	459.80	- 4.30	
Korean Securities	53.04	56.73	+ 2.61	.
Orient Acc	193.60	207.10	+ 2.10	0.14
UK General Inc	202.50	216.60	+ 1.10	1.52
UK General Acc	361.90	387.10	+ 2.10	1.52
UK Sm Cos Div Acc	60.14	64.32	+ 0.38	1.81
UK Spec Sits	104.50	111.90†	+ 1.10	1.47
US Growth	194.80	207.10	- 1.80	..
Wwide Spec Sits	164.80	175.50	- 0.20	.
GARTMORE FUND MANAGERS				
0171 782 2000 Digs only 01277 264 421				
UK Growth Funds				
British Growth	62.00	66.29†	+ 0.19	1.75
Cash Trust	146.46	146.46	+ 0.11	5.22
Practical Inv Inc #	124.46	133.11	+ 0.29	3.61
-do- Accum #	301.09	322.02	+ 0.69	3.61
UK Index	151.98	162.69	+ 0.86	3.21
UK Smaller Cos	202.41	216.48†	+ 2.45	0.54
Income Funds				
Extra Yield	25.09	28.00	+ 0.07	7.27
High Income	34.67	36.98†	+ 0.24	4.92
UK Equity Income	161.19	172.63†	+ 1.16	3.04
Global Bond	29.59	30.68	- 0.08	4.95
International Funds				
Emerging Markets	47.59	50.90	- 0.28	.
Global Managed	152.40	161.94	- 2.21	1.42
Gold & Intl Res	113.70	121.60	+ 1.21	..
Global Utilities	143.05	152.60	- 1.52	1.44
Overseas Funds				
American	205.43	218.07	- 1.76	0.72
European	138.40	146.71	- 0.39	0.80
Euro Sel Opps	210.28	223.00†	+ 0.11	.
Amer Emerging	191.15	204.76	- 2.52	
Hong Kong	171.14	182.84	+ 2.73	1.55
Japan	231.82	246.08	- 5.24	.
Pacific Growth	224.35	239.95	- 1.93	.
Gartmore Pensions Strategy Funds				
Managed Equity	261.96	261.96†	- 3.54	1.94
Long Term Bal	265.02	265.02†	+ 0.47	2.92
Med Term Bal	234.30	234.30†	+ 0.69	2.88
UK Equity	315.79	315.79	+ 1.57	2.35
UK Emerging Cos	181.92	181.92	+ 0.56	1.91
American	328.29	328.29	- 1.79	0.82
Japan	128.73	128.73	- 2.34	.
European	358.23	358.23	- 0.39	1.00
Index Linked Gilt	188.55	188.55	+ 1.25	2.65
Fixed Interest	178.68	178.68†	+ 0.50	6.24
Amer Emerging	425.57	425.57	- 5.76	.
Pacific	238.42	238.42	- 2.09	0.89
Emerging Mkts	125.68	125.68†	- 0.49	0.53
Index Strat Japan	142.90	142.90	- 2.87	0.22
-do- Pacific Rim	209.05	209.05	- 1.08	1.17
-do- Cont Europe	190.43	190.43	- 0.57	1.85
Index Strat USA	192.30	192.30	- 1.01	1.84
Gartmore Personal Pension Funds				
Managed Equity	125.47	133.47	+ 0.24	.
Med Term Bal	111.78	118.91	+ 0.35	.
Long Term Bal	128.34	136.52	+ 0.22	.
UK Equity	148.65	158.01	+ 0.79	..
UK Emerging Cos	85.48	90.93	+ 0.28	
American	151.99	161.69	- 0.84	..
Japan	61.54	65.46	- 1.19	..
European	147.89	157.33	- 0.17	.
Fixed Interest	91.99	97.86	+ 0.28	.
Index Linked Gilt	83.89	89.24	+ 0.59	.
Deposit	87.73	93.32	+ 0.07	
Brewin Unit Trusts				
BWH Intl	161.72	170.23	- 0.54	0.50
Brollit Gth Port Inc	73.75	77.64	- 1.50	0.60
-do- Inc Port Inc	65.28	68.80	+ 0.22	3.50
-do- Wwide Port	61.63	65.04	- 1.51	0.10
GLOBAL ASSET MANAGEMENT				
GAM Sterling Management 0171 493 9990				
Stlg & Intl Inc	822.88	862.43	- 3.44	0.84
-do- Accum	703.19	748.08	- 3.88	0.84
European Inc	181.04	192.25	+ 0.15	1.36
Amalgam Inc	180.75	178.44	+ 2.55	.
N America Inc	438.95	466.97	+ 7.65	.
Far East Inc	370.54	394.19	- 11.14	.
-do- Accum	384.03	408.54	- 11.54	..
UK Dvlnt Inc	211.41	224.90	- 5.43	1.89
GOVETT (JOHN) UNIT MGMT LTD				
0171 378 7979 Dealing: 0171 407 7888				
UK Equity Inc #	102.52	109.75	- 0.37	4.56
UK Small Cos	68.25	72.99	+ 1.29	0.62
British Growth	70.13	74.99	+ 0.38	3.11
American Gwth	291.44	311.69†	- 7.57	.
Japan Gwth	63.09	67.47†	- 1.54	.
Greater China	208.00	222.45	+ 3.84	0.16
Pacific Strategy	160.79	171.95†	- 3.83	.
European Gwth	121.95	130.42	- 0.01	..
Intl Growth	171.52	183.43	- 1.13	..
US Index (£)	18.1485	19.1224	- 0.06	3.75
FTSE 250 Ind	91.98	98.35	+ 0.02	2.15
Monthly Income	41.75	44.68†	..	6.58
Index & Bear Funds Dealing 0171 865 0800				
Gvd UK Index (£)	15.6441	16.5156	+ 0.09	4.50
GRANVILLE UNIT TST MGMT LTD				
0171 488 1212				
Small Cos	116.64	124.08	- 0.04	1.51
GUARDIAN UT MGRS LTD				
0171 538 9888				
European	590.50	630.80	.	0.33
Gilt & Fixed	131.00	138.90	+ 0.40	5.54
Growth Equity	440.30	470.30	- 0.40	1.30
Income Trust	154.60	165.10	+ 0.80	4.12
International	212.70	227.20†	- 1.40	0.03
Japan Trust	118.90	126.90	- 2.50	.
Nth American	368.90	394.10	- 1.80	..
Pacific	582.40	622.20	- 8.30	0.09
Guardhill	647.90	692.70	- 1.60	1.37
GUINNESS FLIGHT UT MGRS LTD				
0171 522 2129				
SMU Trust	109.08	113.23	+ 0.20	5.37
Global High Inc	102.33	106.22	- 0.05	5.84
Corporate Bond	105.06	109.89†	+ 0.41	6.89
Eqty & Bond Inc	110.95	117.96†	+ 0.81	5.49
European Growth	131.13	139.43	+ 0.07	
Intl PEP Trust	70.93	75.42	- 0.58	..
Equity Inc	137.72	146.43	+ 0.50	4.11
-do- Accum	202.16	214.94	+ 0.72	4.11
Recovery	406.30	432.00†	- 1.30	1.51
-do- Accum	485.20	515.80	+ 3.50	1.51
St Vinc High Inc	125.25	133.21†	+ 4.15	7.33
UK Emerg Cos	311.80	331.50	- 0.80	2.31
UK Smlr Cos	410.60	417.80	- 2.30	2.54
Glob Priv Tst	118.56	120.93†	- 0.53	1.70
-do- Accum	121.15	128.81	- 0.55	1.70
Inc Share Tst	90.23	95.94†	+ 0.31	9.05
HALIFAX UT MGMT LTD				
Dealing: 0171 220 5050 01904 611110				
Balanced Inc	57.54	61.01	+ 0.22	3.71
Balanced Acc	61.20	64.89	+ 0.24	3.71
Growth	34.25	36.31†	+ 0.12	2.28
Growth Acc	35.41	37.55	+ 0.13	2.28
Income	32.57	34.53†	+ 0.12	4.23
Income Acc	34.80	36.80	+ 0.14	4.23
Accumulation Tst	26.38	28.57	+ 0.07	3.12
HAMBROS UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
Enquiries: 01277 227 300 Dealing: 01277 690 380				
High Provider	101.80	105.30	+ 0.60	6.47
Mngd Ptflio	246.90	259.00†	+ 0.30	2.63
HENDERSON INVESTORS				
Enquiries: 0645 484948 Dealing: 0645 464646				
UK Funds				
UK Enterprise	371.17	397.15†	+ 1.50	0.93
Best of British	75.19	79.92	+ 0.54	2.19
UK Smaller Cos	158.06	169.91	- 1.01	1.22
High Income Funds				
Income & Growth #	314.57	335.00	+ 1.49	3.26
-do- Accum #	886.81	944.41	+ 4.20	3.26
High Income	345.75	368.69	+ 1.67	4.15
Extra Income #	291.14	309.82†	+ 2.43	5.84
Pref & Bond	49.47	51.13	+ 0.21	8.30
International				
Ethical	124.51	133.16	+ 0.95	1.83
International	330.48	350.96†	- 2.18	..
Global Bond	56.30	59.35†	- 0.17	6.59
Intl Port Tst	101.34	108.38	- 0.27	0.68
Global Tech	247.86	265.79	- 0.54	...
Overseas Funds				
Asian Enterprise	197.24	210.92	- 1.19	0.03
European	631.81	670.39	- 0.69	0.49
European Income #	94.30	100.04	+ 0.01	3.23
Euro Smlr Cos	196.54	209.78†	+ 0.14	0.89
European Value	95.35	101.61†	+ 0.17	0.47
-do- Accum	102.56	109.31	+ 0.18	0.47
Japan Trust	220.91	234.81	- 3.38	...
Japan Smllr Cos	223.83	238.91†	- 6.27	...
Pacific Smlr Cos	245.95	262.09†	- 2.85	..
North American	331.30	351.81	- 0.20	...
American Smaller	187.54	200.32†	- 0.80	.
HIGH PEAK UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
Enquiries: 01277 227 300 Dealing: 01277 261 010				
Income & Growth #	161.10	169.60†	- 0.30	4.98
HILL SAMUEL UNIT TST MGRS				
0181 686 4355				
British	126.20	132.15	+ 0.53	1.87
Capital	207.84	217.84	- 0.04	1.36
Dollar	519.32	543.79	- 0.85	..
Enterprise Gth	440.79	461.86†	+ 2.22	1.15
European	279.38	292.54	- 2.55	0.62
Far East	315.69	330.56	- 1.87	.
Financial	£10.49	£10.98†	+ 0.09	1.98
Gilt & Fxd Int Inc	26.81	27.88	+ 0.10	6.57
High Yield #	113.05	118.39	+ 0.88	5.12
Income & Growth #	166.79	174.63	+ 0.96	3.78
International	298.64	312.72	- 1.98	0.31
Japanese General	203.87	213.47	- 3.78	...
Japan Tech	87.31	91.42	- 1.88	.
Nat Resources	84.11	88.07	- 0.63	0.49
Portfolio	88.12	82.27	- 0.11	1.84
Special Sits	213.95	224.04†	+ 0.99	0.01
UK Emerging Cos	132.46	138.71†	- 0.37	0.70
US Smaller Cos	170.53	178.57	- 0.58	..
HSBC UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
Advisers 0800 181 890 Investors 0800 289 505				
Active Funds-UK				
Income #	656.10	700.20	+ 4.40	5.83
UK Growth	733.20	782.50†	- 1.00	2.47
High Income #	117.00	124.90†	+ 1.00	5.77
Active Funds-International				
American Gwth	627.10	663.70	- 8.80	0.28
European Gwth	148.90	158.30	- 0.40	0.11
Japan Gwth	269.80	286.90†	- 4.30	.
Japan Smllr Cos	32.87	34.87	- 0.68	.
Asian	82.94	87.17	- 1.13	0.18
Sing & Malay Gwth	84.73	90.45	- 2.02	.
Hong Kong Gwth	150.90	161.00	+ 4.20	1.20
Global Bond	22.46	23.71	- 0.06	5.31
Index Funds-UK				
UK Index	171.70	172.60	+ 1.00	3.32
Tddle Index	130.40	133.90†	+ 1.20	2.18
THE FOOTSIE FUND	86.85	87.19	+ 0.38	2.84
Index Funds-International				
American Index	288.80	294.80	- 0.80	0.95
Eurotrack 100	200.30	201.30	- 0.60	1.40
Japan Index	76.37	76.75	- 1.33	0.09
Tiger Index	195.40	200.50†	- 5.60	..
INVESCO FUND MANAGERS LTD				
0171 626 3434 Dealing: 0800 010 733				
UK Specialist Trusts				
UK Smaller Cos	48.75	51.40†	- 0.11	1.12
General Funds				
Managed Dist	90.93	94.67	+ 0.27	1.39
Managed	93.42	97.28	+ 0.28	1.39
Report Child Fnd	105.30	109.60	+ 0.50	2.07
UK Growth	73.25	76.36	+ 0.14	1.85
High Income Funds				
UK Extra Inc #	89.63	93.32†	+ 0.77	5.40
Gilt & Fixed Int #	27.88	27.97†	+ 0.07	6.00
UK Inc & Gwth	49.79	51.64	+ 0.28	2.99
UK Income #	388.10	404.10	+ 4.80	4.12
Overseas Growth Funds				
American Growth	66.09	68.47†	+ 0.21	0.11
Amer Smllr Cos	178.00	185.30	- 2.70	.
-do- Accum	179.90	187.30	- 2.80	..
Europe Gth	235.60	245.10†	- 0.80	
-do- Accum	244.10	253.80†	- 1.00	..
Euro Smaller Cos	45.80	47.63†	- 0.21	..
French Growth	96.79	100.50	- 0.80	0.88
-do- Accum	104.80	108.80	- 0.80	0.88
H Kong & China	99.91	103.90	+ 1.50	0.83
Intl Growth	69.50	72.36	- 0.35	0.12
-do- Accum	70.47	73.37	- 0.36	0.12
Japan Gth	30.98	32.25	- 0.68	
-do- Accum	30.98	32.25	- 0.68	..
Japan Smaller Cos	38.03	39.59†	- 0.84	.
Glob Emg Mkts	96.18	100.10	- 1.00	.
-do- Accum	96.86	100.80†	- 1.00	0.11
SE Asia	345.10	359.30	- 6.50	0.17
Overseas Income Funds				
Intl Bond #	53.69	55.34†	- 0.14	6.38
JOHNSON FRY UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
Enq 01277 227300 Dealing 01277 690448				
Sector Value Inc #	104.10	109.90†	- 1.60	3.77
Sector Value Gwth	106.30	112.20†	- 0.40	2.13
Hy 5 Europe	100.40	105.30	- 0.40	2.79
Slater Gwth	172.10	181.60†	+ 2.90	0.63
New Japan	.	100.00	.	0.01
JUPITER UT MGRS LTD				
0171 581 3020				
World Health	218.20	232.10	- 0.10	.
Income #	216.83	230.67	+ 2.10	4.21
UK Growth	86.26	91.66	+ 0.68	1.87
Intl Growth	89.23	94.92	+ 0.52	0.45
Ecology	102.84	109.51†	- 1.20	0.87
European	205.090	216.19	- 3.12	0.57
Far Eastern	305.70	325.10	- 3.40	.
UK Special Sits	52.55	56.05†	+ 0.80	.
KLEINWORT BENSON UNIT TRUSTS				
Dealers: 0171 956 7354				
Income Trusts				
Bond Income	101.90	105.30†	+ 0.40	7.07
Gilt Yield	120.10	126.70†	+ 0.40	6.80
Global Income	237.70	252.90	- 1.20	3.52
High Yield	154.09	163.80†	+ 0.10	5.67
-do- Accum	510.30	542.90†	+ 0.20	5.67
Smlr Cos Div	62.78	66.79	- 0.16	3.31
Capital Growth Trusts				
Amer Smlr Cos	162.30	172.70	- 0.30	
Asian Growth	325.40	346.30	- 9.70	..
-do- Accum	382.50	406.90	- 11.20	..
North American	113.00	120.20	+ 0.30	0.22
European Special	126.40	134.50	- 0.90	1.24
European	182.90	194.60	- 1.70	0.46
-do- Accum	242.00	257.40	- 2.30	0.46
Global Eqty Inc	122.80	130.30	- 0.50	7.89
Japan	395.00	420.30	- 6.80	.
Japanese Special	220.60	234.70	- 6.00	...
Smaller Cos	146.80	156.00	- 0.10	1.04
UK Equity Growth	51.74	55.04	- 0.90	1.82
UK Index Inc	347.20	348.90	+ 1.10	3.21
Blecham Tst	109.80	116.10†	+ 0.10	1.95
-do- Accum	117.40	118.80†	+ 0.10	1.95
LAURENCE KEEN UNIT TRUST MGMT				
0171 407 5966				
Bridge Income	312.43	332.37	+ 4.62	4.66
Inc & Growth Inc	68.41	72.78	+ 1.12	3.81
Smaller Cos	90.75	96.54†	+ 1.10	1.23
LAZARD UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
01277 690 432				
UK Cap	473.10	502.00	+ 5.60	2.15
UK Inc/Gth	479.80	507.40	+ 2.40	4.23
UK Income	345.90	367.00	+ 3.50	4.95
UK Sm Cos	313.10	334.90	+ 0.10	1.57
Euro Gwth	167.10	177.20	- 0.90	0.45
N Amer Gwth	126.40	133.70	- 0.10	
Japan Growth	60.61	64.50	- 1.14	.
LEGAL & GENERAL (UT MGRS) LTD				
Enquiries: 01277 227 300 Dealing: 01277 690 395				
Equity Dist @	592.20	592.20†	+ 3.10	2.73
-do- Accum @	812.35	812.35†	+ 7.00	2.73
Equity Income @#	105.60	105.60	+ 0.40	5.01
UK Tactical Alloctn @	68.34	68.34†	+ 0.37	3.87
European @	146.50	146.50†	- 0.70	1.08
Far Eastern @	232.10	232.10†	- 5.20	.
Fixed Interest @	54.94	54.94†	+ 0.22	7.26
Gilt @	91.77	91.77†	- 2.05	6.65
Global Growth @	84.26	84.26	- 0.73	0.21
Intl Bond @	53.70	53.70†	- 0.22	5.21
Japanese @	70.14	70.14	- 1.30	.
North American @	223.40	223.40	- 0.90	0.81
Pacific Growth @	122.60	122.60†	- 1.30	0.20
UK Index @	78.03	78.03†	- 0.65	3.20
UK Recovery @	120.50	120.50	+ 0.80	2.07
UK Smaller Cos @	161.80	161.80	- 0.40	1.25
US Index @	85.01	85.01	- 0.40	1.35
European Index @	92.50	92.50†	- 0.27	1.72
Japan Index @	39.14	39.14	- 0.71	...
Worldwide @	100.60	100.60	- 0.20	1.41
LINCOLN FUND MGRS				
01452 371 500 Dealing: 01452 371 523				
Growth	57.82	61.83	+ 0.04	2.20
Income	66.58	71.20	+ 0.21	4.07
Far East	54.17	57.93	- 1.13	0.08
North American	137.10	146.40	- 0.10	.
Global	106.40	113.70	- 1.70	0.39
European	97.99	104.80	+ 0.10	1.03
Japan	100.70	107.60	- 1.70	.
Intl Currency Bd	59.84	63.49†	- 0.20	4.37
SE Asia	109.30	116.80	- 1.10	0.48
UK Cap Growth	105.20	112.50†	+ 0.50	2.59
Recovery Trust	93.19	99.66	+ 0.81	1.22
Managed	77.51	82.89†	- 0.17	1.21
Cash	51.27	51.27	+ 0.03	4.49
LLOYDS BK UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
Helpdesk: 01634 834 339 Dealing: 01634 834 313				
Balanced	417.90	444.60	+ 1.30	2.12
-do- Accum	887.89	£10.51	+ 3.00	2.12
Contl Euro Gth	82.40	88.74	- 0.36	0.59
-do- Accum	86.67	93.34	- 0.42	0.59
Extra Inc	289.50	308.50	+ 1.50	3.83
-do- Accum	799.90	844.80	+ 4.00	3.83
FTSE 100 Inc	123.00	130.80	+ 0.50	2.54
FTSE 100 Acc	128.40	136.70	+ 0.60	2.54
German Gth	140.60	149.08	+ 0.10	.
-do- Accum	147.50	155.30	+ 0.20	.
Growth Port	670.20	713.00†	- 9.10	0.03
-do- Accum	698.40	743.00	- 9.50	0.03
High Interest Inc	100.00	103.70†	+ 0.50	7.57
High Interest Acc	106.00	109.90	+ 0.50	7.57
HI Reserve Inc #	108.80	115.60	+ 0.50	6.08
HI Reserve Acc #	117.70	125.30	+ 0.50	6.08
Income	568.30	604.60	+ 9.60	3.06
-do- Accum	£16.00	£17.03	+ 28.00	3.06
Income Port	572.10	608.70	+ 3.00	4.20
-do- Accum	640.00	680.90	+ 3.40	4.20
Japan Growth	100.00	108.60	- 1.90	.
-do- Accum	102.40	109.00	- 1.90	
Master Trust	69.07	73.48	+ 0.02	1.28
-do- Accum	79.75	84.85	+ 0.03	1.28
Millennium Acc	96.72	102.90		2.28
N American Gth	253.10	269.30	- 0.60	..
-do- Accum	292.90	311.60	- 0.80	.
NAm Sm Co Rec	211.40	224.90	+ 0.60	.
-do- Accum	215.80	229.60	+ 0.70	...
Pacific Basin	261.10	277.80	- 3.00	0.10
-do- Accum	278.10	295.90	- 3.20	0.10
Small Cos Rec	532.50	580.60	- 0.70	1.70
-do- Accum	729.80	788.30	- 0.90	1.70
UK Eq Gth	167.10	177.80†	+ 0.70	2.41
UK Eq Inc	129.90	138.20†	+ 0.70	3.87
UK Growth	108.10	115.00	+ 1.70	1.69
-do- Accum	135.70	144.40	+ 2.20	1.69
Worldwide Gth	363.00	386.20	- 1.30	0.30
-do- Accum	536.50	570.80	- 1.90	0.30
LONDON & MANCHESTER TST MGMT				
01392 282 673				
American	90.12	96.52	- 0.46	0.70
General	110.48	118.51	+ 0.31	2.80
Income	73.87	79.26†	+ 0.27	5.20
International	75.10	80.58	- 0.48	0.50
Japan	56.12	60.21	- 0.93	.
Tst of Inv Trusts	77.73	83.40†	- 0.29	1.00
M & G SECURITIES				
Cust Svcs/Unit Dlg: 01245 390 390				
Amer & General	537.60	567.90	+ 0.50	0.37
-do- Accum	672.90	710.90	+ 0.60	0.37
Amer Recovery	594.60	628.60	+ 3.80	0.26
-do- Accum	685.80	725.30	+ 4.40	0.26
Amer Smllr Cos	180.80	191.20	+ 0.30	...
-do- Accum	184.70	195.30	+ 0.30	...
Australasian	210.10	222.20		2.24
-do- Accum	263.90	279.10	.	2.24
Capital	1007.40	1065.30	+ 2.30	2.73
-do- Accum	1202.90	1272.00	+ 2.80	2.73
Charifund	764.60	772.80	+ 6.90	5.89
-do- Accum	3915.40	3954.50	+ 35.10	5.89
Commodity	482.90	510.70	- 3.99	0.24
-do- Accum	714.10	755.20	- 5.70	0.24
Compound Gwth	1138.60	1204.10	+ 5.60	2.70
-do- Accum	1242.10	1313.60	+ 6.10	2.70
Corporate Bond	25.73	25.81†	+ 0.08	7.40
Dividend	44.80	47.40	+ 0.20	4.75
-do- Accum	198.40	209.90	+ 0.80	4.75
Equity Income	328.20	347.10	+ 1.50	5.56
-do- Accum	455.10	481.30	+ 2.00	5.56
Euro & General	645.40	682.50	+ 2.50	0.80
-do- Accum	828.90	876.50	+ 3.20	0.80
Euro Dividend	81.10	85.80	+ 0.40	3.57
-do- Accum	103.20	109.20	+ 0.50	3.57
Extra Yield	460.60	487.10†	+ 2.90	5.08
-do- Accum	1557.80	1647.50†	+ 9.70	5.08
Fund of Inv Tsts	733.70	775.90	+ 0.40	2.00
-do- Accum	1408.20	1489.30	+ 0.80	2.00
General	70.30	74.30	+ 0.30	3.72
-do- Accum	207.20	219.00	+ 0.90	3.72
Gilt Income	62.57	62.68	+ 0.16	6.90
-do- Accum	189.60	189.87	+ 0.49	6.90
Gold	79.80	84.40	- 0.50	0.03
-do- Accum	95.50	101.00	- 0.60	0.03
High Income	33.50	35.40	+ 0.10	4.63
-do- Accum	143.10	151.40	+ 0.50	4.63
Intl Growth	91.90	97.20	- 0.60	0.63
-do- Accum	162.60	172.10	- 1.00	0.63
International Inc	112.70	119.20	+ 0.30	4.41
-do- Accum	176.40	186.60	+ 0.50	4.41
Japan & Gen	39.90	42.10	- 0.60	.
-do- Accum	42.80	45.20	- 0.60	.
Japan Smlr Cos	144.70	153.00	- 1.30	
-do- Accum	145.70	154.10	- 1.30	
Managed Gwth	27.80	29.10	+ 0.10	1.63
Managed Income	29.80	31.40†	+ 0.10	4.26
Midland	63.00	66.60	+ 0.10	3.24
-do- Accum	218.70	231.20	+ 0.40	3.24
Pension Ex	1095.50	1122.90	+ 4.60	4.18
Recovery	48.20	51.00	- 0.30	2.84
-do- Accum	82.90	87.70	- 0.50	2.84
Second General	77.40	81.90	+ 0.30	3.83
-do- Accum	209.80	222.00	+ 0.60	3.83
Smaller Cos	70.40	74.40	- 0.20	3.37
-do- Accum	145.70	154.10	- 0.40	3.37
Sth East Asia	387.80	410.10	- 0.20	1.39
-do- Accum	519.40	549.30	- 0.26	1.39
Treasury	25.13	25.16†	+ 0.01	5.47
Trustee	45.00	47.60		4.72
-do- Accum	191.30	202.50	.	4.72
MGM UNIT MANAGERS LTD				
Dealing: 01277 261 010 Enq: 01903 204 631				
European Growth	100.03	105.41†	- 0.07	1.57
Intl Bond	66.37	69.72	+ 0.11	5.55
Intl Equity Growth	87.08	92.49	- 0.41	0.72
N Amer Growth	140.15	148.95†	- 0.72	0.75
Special Sits Growth	28.06	29.85†	+ 0.15	1.55
UK Growth	466.05	495.79†	+ 1.95	2.46
-do- Accum	643.60	684.68	+ 2.89	2.46
M&W JOINT INVESTORS LTD				
01620 825867				
Balanced Fd #	1490.90	1514.40	- 3.20	2.90
Income #	1043.10	1059.90	- 1.70	4.40
MALDON UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0131 222 4242				
Maldon General	166.80	170.70†		4.68
For Manulife see Canada Life				
MARKS & SPENCER UNIT TRUST LTD				
0800 363432				
M & S Inv Ptflo	181.30	186.90	- 0.20	2.50
-do- Accum	215.30	221.80	- 0.30	2.58
UK Sel Ptflo	160.90	165.80	+ 0.40	2.47
-do- Accum	194.00	200.00	+ 0.50	2.47
UK 100 Cos	118.10	118.10†	+ 0.40	2.83
-do- Accum	120.40	120.40†	+ 0.50	2.83
MARLBOROUGH FUND MGRS LTD				
01204 364 842				
Managed Tst	75.20	80.00†	+ 1.16	3.54
MARTIN CURRIE UNIT TRUSTS LTD				
0131 479 4646				
Intl Income	83.92	88.09†	+ 0.20	3.51
European	107.60	114.20	- 0.10	0.61
Income #	85.28	90.53	+ 0.28	4.24
Nth American	99.51	105.60	+ 0.50	0.23
Far East	176.50	189.50	- 2.50	0.06
Japan	61.05	64.81	- 0.74	..
Emging Mkts	86.44	92.45	- 1.54	..
Intl Growth	130.99	139.00†	- 0.80	0.75
UK Growth	128.20	136.10	- 0.10	2.41
UK Smr Co	62.26	66.08	- 0.08	1.32
Asia Pacific	37.21	39.80	- 1.24	0.31
Glob Gwth PEP	62.61	66.46†	+ 0.07	1.30
MATHESON UNIT TRUSTS LTD				
0181 891 7453				
Select Portfolio	104.80	111.50	- 0.70	..
MAYFLOWER MANAGEMENT CO LTD				
0171 407 5966				
Income	467.07	496.88†	+ 2.01	4.56
Global Inc	75.20	80.00†	+ 0.09	4.37
Brit Leaders	398.41	423.84†	+ 1.91	3.59
Intl Leaders	234.50	249.47†	- 0.17	1.45
PAM Mg Bal Gth	73.77	76.64†	- 0.16	0.47
MERCURY FUND MANAGERS LTD				
Dealing: 0800 445522				
American	280.90	296.20	- 0.30	
-do- Accum	300.30	316.70	- 0.40	..
American Opps	141.20	150.80†	- 1.20	.
-do- Accum	143.00	152.50†	- 1.20	.
British Blue Chip	98.65	104.70†	+ 0.60	2.30
-do- Accum	128.00	135.80†	+ 0.70	2.30
Cash	101.00	101.00	.	5.38
-do- Accum	149.40	149.40	+ 0.10	5.38
Emerging Mkts	128.60	138.30	- 2.20	0.10
-do- Accum	130.20	140.00	- 2.30	0.10
European Growth	336.00	355.10	- 1.00	0.13
-do- Accum	365.30	387.10	- 1.20	0.13
European Income	93.44	98.84	- 0.11	2.90
-do- Accum	134.40	142.10	- 0.20	2.90
General	634.50	674.70†	+ 1.40	1.84
-do- Accum	1298.00	1380.00†	+ 3.00	1.84
Global Bond	133.60	140.30†	+ 0.10	5.54
-do- Accum	177.50	186.40†	+ 0.10	5.54
Gold & General	230.60	245.80	- 1.40	0.36
-do- Accum	238.70	255.40	- 1.60	0.36
Govt Securities	96.00	98.99	+ 0.33	6.00
-do- Accum	201.30	207.50	+ 0.70	6.00
High Yield Bd	102.50	105.10†	+ 0.40	6.96
-do- Accum	108.90	111.80†	+ 0.40	6.96
Income	191.90	203.70	+ 1.30	4.13
-do- Accum	318.20	337.80	+ 2.10	4.13
Inc Portfolio #	114.80	121.30†	+ 0.40	4.72
-do- Accum #	125.10	132.40†	+ 0.60	4.72
Intl Opps	598.40	625.50	- 3.80	0.14
-do- Accum	791.40	844.20	- 5.10	0.14
Japan	167.60	178.70	- 2.90	..
-do- Accum	172.00	183.50	- 2.80	..
New Europe	244.50	260.80	+ 2.70	0.77
-do- Accum	254.30	271.30	+ 2.70	0.77
Pacific	115.40	122.00	- 1.20	0.89
-do- Accum	124.30	132.60	- 1.20	0.89
Recovery	460.90	491.50	+ 1.20	0.53
-do- Accum	604.70	645.00	+ 1.60	0.53
UK Smaller Cos	68.30	72.72†	+ 0.44	0.73
-do- Accum	76.56	81.66†	+ 0.51	0.73
Portfolio	95.80	101.80†	+ 0.10	2.27
-do- Accum	118.60	125.10†	+ 0.20	2.27
Managed Gth	124.50	130.10	.	0.99
Managed Inc	122.80	127.50	+ 0.40	2.94
METROPOLITAN UT MGRS LTD				
01707 662 233				
Eurogrowth Plus	159.47	169.65	- 0.77	0.14
Portfolio	82.44	87.70	+ 0.06	1.37
UK Income Inc	91.93	97.80†	+ 0.68	4.83
MIDLAND UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
Enq: 0345 456 123 Dlg: 0345 456 126				
Balanced	69.69	72.97†	+ 0.03	2.69
-do- Accum	77.32	80.95†	+ 0.03	2.69
British Tst	108.10	113.20	+ 0.40	2.73
-do- Accum	129.40	135.50	+ 0.50	2.73
Corp Bond Inc	101.70	105.40	+ 0.30	6.84
-do- Accum	104.10	107.80	+ 0.30	6.84
Extra High Inc	70.41	73.73†	+ 0.35	7.31
-do- Accum	151.10	158.20†	+ 0.70	7.31
FTSE 100 Acc	70.73	74.06	+ 0.41	2.74
FTSE 100 Dist	66.73	69.57	+ 0.39	2.74
Gilt & Fxd Int	55.95	58.61†	+ 0.17	6.08
-do- Accum	180.20	187.58†	+ 0.60	6.08
High Yield	242.60	254.00	+ 1.30	6.54
-do- Accum	658.10	689.10	+ 3.80	6.54
Income	326.50	341.90	+ 2.20	4.20
-do- Accum	786.70	802.80	+ 5.10	4.20
Money Market UT	49.60	49.60	+ 0.04	4.86
-do- Accum	83.06	83.06	+ 0.07	4.86
Monthly Income	94.78	99.23†	+ 0.67	4.41
Midland Personal Pension Unit Trust				
British	135.50	144.20	+ 0.50	1.36
European Growth	137.00	145.30	+ 1.70	0.01
Gilt & Fixed	100.90	106.80	+ 0.30	5.19
Income	105.30	112.90	+ 0.80	2.28
Japan Growth	49.61	52.79	- 1.09	..
Managed	84.28	89.66	- 0.59	1.96
Money Market	95.31	101.00	+ 0.10	3.98
North American	113.20	120.00	- 0.10	0.37
Midland FSAVCS Unit Trust				
British	123.00	130.80	+ 0.50	1.35
European Growth	128.70	136.40	+ 1.60	0.01
Gilt & Fixed Int	95.05	100.80	+ 0.30	5.21
Income	103.20	109.60	+ 0.80	2.34
Japan Growth	49.57	52.56	- 1.07	..
Managed	81.12	86.30	+ 0.09	1.93
Money Market	87.88	93.15	+ 0.11	3.94
North American	102.20	108.30	- 0.10	0.45
Midland Executive Pension Unit Trust				
British	122.10	129.90	+ 0.50	1.35
European Growth	125.80	133.50	+ 1.80	
Gilt & Fixed Int	85.60	90.76	+ 0.27	5.44
Income	100.58	106.90	+ 0.77	2.39
Japan Growth	50.67	53.71	- 1.18	...
Managed	83.75	89.07	+ 0.08	1.95
Money Market	80.09	84.89	+ 0.07	4.10
North American	114.50	121.30	- 0.20	0.35
MILLENNIUM FUND MGMT LTD				
0171 407 5966				
International (US$)	15.42	16.34	+ 0.10	..
MORGAN GRENFELL INVEST FDS LTD				
Dealers: 0171 588 7474 Enquiries: 0171 588 7171				
American Gwth	491.90	521.50†	- 5.80	...
European Gth Inc	580.20	621.00	- 0.60	...
-do- Accum	586.50	627.70	- 0.60	
Intl Gwth	230.00	244.40	- 3.40	
UK Equity Inc	226.80	241.50†	+ 1.40	3.79
Do. Accum	309.40	329.50†	+ 1.90	3.79
UK Ind Trcks Inc	196.80	210.00	- 0.90	3.06
-do- Accum	243.50	259.60	+ 1.70	3.06
US Eq Ind Trk Inc	281.00	297.40	- 1.30	0.83
Japan Tracker	71.62	75.52	- 1.34	.
Asian Trader	228.30	240.70†	- 3.30	0.14
Mngd Ptflo Inc	197.70	204.60	+ 1.30	1.95
Mngd Ptflo Acc	209.20	223.20	+ 1.40	1.95
Deposit Inc	99.98	99.98	+ 0.02	5.04
Europa	267.40	286.40	- 0.60	...
Genesis	219.30	236.30	+ 0.30	2.38
High Income	20.69	21.94†	+ 0.03	10.00
MURRAY JOHNSTONE UT MGMT				
0345 090 553				
Acumen	110.70	113.00	.	2.13
Acumen Inc	108.20	102.40	- 1.10	2.13
Acumen Reserve	95.71	97.68†	+ 0.21	7.53
-do- Inc	74.62	75.35†	- 0.97	7.53
Americas Growth	74.04	75.94†	- 0.20	..
Equity Income #	105.70	108.30†	+ 0.50	4.49
European	83.53	84.96†	- 0.86	0.46
Smaller Cos	95.30	99.60	- 0.60	1.07
W'wide Eqty	78.99	80.63†	- 0.41	.
Global Bond	45.19	45.67	- 0.01	5.44
UK Growth	116.60	112.60	- 0.50	1.49
Pacific Growth	128.50	123.90	- 1.90	0.65
Japan Growth	94.70	96.64	- 1.64	.
NFU MUTUAL UNIT MGRS LTD				
Enquiries: 01277 227 300 Dealing: 01277 261 010				
Avon Equity	151.23	161.66	+ 1.06	2.67
N&P UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD				
0161 839 8262				
UK Growth	92.50	98.40	+ 0.45	2.31
UK Income	128.91	137.12	+ 1.04	4.13
Higher Income	246.53	262.27	- 3.41	4.31
Smaller Cos	105.17	111.68†	- 0.39	1.41
International	115.16	120.29	- 0.34	1.40
NPI INVESTMENT MGRS				
0171 623 4200				
Americas Dist	133.60	142.30	- 0.20	0.10
European Dist	149.90	159.60	- 0.50	0.30
Far East Dist	196.30	208.80	- 2.40	...
Global Care Dist	87.85	93.42	- 0.63	0.36
Oseas Dist	1182.70	1258.20†	- 13.10	
-do- Accum	1538.30	1638.40	- 16.90	
UK Dist	429.50	457.60	+ 1.40	2.18
-do- Accum	893.00	950.00	+ 3.10	2.18
UK Extra Inc Dist	96.50	102.66	+ 0.49	2.50
Wwide Dist	123.10	131.02†	- 1.60	
Wwide Inc Dist	90.04	95.79†	- 0.36	1.58
NATWEST UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD				
Dlg: 01277 690 298 Admin Enq: 01277 690 398				
Europe Inc	79.86	84.25	- 0.07	0.77
Fund of Funds Inc	70.94	74.67	- 0.39	1.74
North America Inc	70.26	72.93	- 0.51	0.34
UK Equity Gth Inc	71.11	75.11	+ 0.48	2.65
-do- Accum	78.51	82.85	+ 0.52	2.65
UK General Inc	68.44	72.23†	+ 0.47	2.42
UK Gilt/Fix Int Inc	49.14	51.75†	+ 0.05	6.49
UK Income Inc	66.94	70.65	- 0.39	4.10
NEWTON FUND MGRS LTD				
Enquiries: 0800 614 330 Dealing: 0500 440 000				
American	55.29	58.82	- 0.26	.
-do- Accum	[illegible]	59.05	- 0.28	.
Bond	130.35	138.14	- 0.29	5.39
Cash Income	50.86	50.86	- 0.04	5.12
-do- Accum	62.14	62.14	- 0.05	5.12
Distribution	105.11	111.87	+ 0.18	2.82
European	57.52	61.19	- 0.27	.
Foundation	112.35	119.42	+ 0.84	2.62
General Inc	216.77	230.60	- 0.48	1.59
General Acc	216.77	230.60	- 2.80	1.59
Global	380.83	425.13	- 1.47	.
Growth Inc	145.73	155.02	- 1.43	2.38
Growth Acc	149.52	159.08	- 1.43	2.38
Higher Income Inc	31.98	33.97	+ 0.17	4.67
-do- Accum	38.84	41.31	+ 0.20	4.67
Income	263.00	279.72†	+ 1.05	3.41
Intnatl	143.05	149.91	.	1.72
Japan	27.16	28.93	- 0.54	.
Oriental Inc	150.25	159.83	- 5.66	0.54
-do- Accum	155.67	165.60	- 5.77	0.54
Pers Inf Gwth	38.72	39.17	- 0.15	.
NORTHERN ROCK UNIT TRUST LTD				
0191 285 2595				
High Income #	48.59	51.32†	- 0.30	6.25
Managed	116.50	123.30	- 0.70	2.69
NORWICH UNION TST MANAGERS				
01603 682 234				
Master Trust	144.46	152.06†	- 0.42	0.87
UK Equity	173.12	182.23†	+ 0.51	2.82
UK Equity Income	155.62	164.92	+ 1.26	3.12
UK Smaller Cos	141.17	148.60	- 0.70	1.54
UK Equity Growth	157.45	165.74†	+ 0.95	1.15
UK Index Trckg	172.26	181.32†	+ 0.30	2.73
Intl Index Trckg	173.46	183.01†	- 1.36	0.80
International	262.89	297.57	- 1.77	0.72
European	256.51	272.43	- 0.51	0.22
Pan European	171.66	182.70	- 0.47	1.22
Nth American	247.71	260.75	- 0.72	0.11
N Amer Smlr Cos	251.29	264.52	- 1.56	.
Japanese	90.98	95.77	- 2.02	.
Pacific	243.61	256.43	- 4.35	0.53
South East Asian	280.52	295.29†	- 4.30	0.75
Intl Bond	132.52	144.76	- 0.16	4.50
Gilt & Convertible	111.41	117.27	+ 0.41	5.38
Property	84.04	88.46	- 0.06	5.78
OLD MUTUAL FUND MGRS LTD				
01256 768 888				
European Inc	358.30	384.00	- 0.40	0.15
-do- Accum	380.30	407.80	- 0.40	0.15
Japan Inc	110.30	117.70†	- 2.10	..
Nth American Inc	143.20	153.00	- 0.60	0.61
Worldwide Inc	179.80	195.10†	- 1.10	0.03
Hong Kong Inc	182.80	196.80	+ 4.10	1.72
Swiss Equities Inc	89.54	95.68	+ 0.12	.
Wwide Bond Inc	67.49	71.36†	- 0.04	4.82
Emging Asia Inc	190.30	207.40	- 8.90	0.15
-do- Accum	191.60	208.10	- 9.00	0.15
UK Money Mkt Inc	50.41	50.41	- 0.04	5.43
Thailand Inc	123.50	135.60	- 11.80	1.80
New Zealand Inc	98.76	108.20†	- 0.80	2.99
Int Mngd PEP Inc	71.77	76.89	+ 0.89	1.05
Latin Am Cmp Inc	68.52	73.34	- 0.14	0.57
UK All Sh Mkr Inc	72.21	73.39	+ 0.30	2.62
Broker Unit Trusts				
Global Trustee	88.36	94.50†	- 0.48	.
Global Portfolio	78.55	84.01	- 0.66	...
Global Opps	67.52	72.21	- 0.41	...
Marsh Global Gth	69.09	73.27	- 0.24	.
CAM Brit Grwth Inc	110.70	118.70	+ 0.70	.
Temple Equity Inc	49.58	53.92	- 0.01	4.20
Hartley Growth	111.90	119.00	- 1.40	0.42
Intl Growth Inc	87.50	93.58†	+ 0.13	0.67
IPS Portfolio Inc	92.45	98.88	- 1.42	...
Premier Portfolio Inc	72.09	77.10	+ 0.02	1.38
Roxburgh Stwd Gth	81.73	87.41	- 0.06	0.65
International Stwd	85.44	90.89	- 0.91	..
UFC Growth	63.95	68.49	- 0.14	..
Chartfield Port of Fds	58.18	60.75	- 0.34	.
Lowes Wld Growth	52.43	55.19	- 0.20	0.12
PM UT MGRS LTD				
0171 588 3963				
Equity Gth	245.90	261.60	- 1.50	1.15
European Gth	131.80	139.70	+ 0.30	0.64
Income & Gth #	162.40	172.80†	+ 1.50	2.76
Japan Gth	108.80	115.80	- 1.80	..
Nth Amer Gth	220.40	234.50	- 0.70	..
Overseas Gth	123.90	131.80	- 1.00	0.06
PEARL UNIT TRUSTS LTD				
Dlg: 0800 626 577 Enq: 01733 470 470				
Equity	284.50	302.70	+ 1.50	2.29
-do- Accum	622.80	662.90	+ 3.20	2.29
Growth	185.70	195.40	- 0.10	2.61
Income	271.10	288.40†	+ 0.90	3.56
Intl Equity	288.20	306.60†	- 1.80	0.58
-do- Accum	322.70	343.30	- 2.00	0.58
UK Income	75.53	80.34	+ 0.29	3.10
UK Intl 25	95.67	101.70	+ 0.10	1.93
New Europe	103.60	110.10	- 0.10	0.17
PERPETUAL UNIT TST MGMT				
01491 417 000				
Intl Growth Inc	697.57	745.78†	- 5.93	0.48
-do- Accum	702.04	750.95	- 5.96	0.48
Income	440.19	470.88†	+ 1.94	3.14
Wwide Recovery	464.02	496.19	- 5.37	0.45
Asset Growth Inc	324.57	346.02	- 2.13	0.01
-do- Accum	324.57	346.02	- 2.13	0.01
Intl Emerging Cos	298.65	319.42	- 3.83	0.01
Far Estn Gth Inc	311.63	333.51	- 2.71	0.88
-do- Accum	312.97	334.73	- 2.72	0.88
Euro Gwth Inc	181.75	193.91	- 2.07	0.56
-do- Accum	182.38	194.59	- 2.07	0.55
UK Growth Inc	117.24	125.38	+ 0.33	2.59
-do- Accum	125.92	134.65	+ 0.35	2.59
High Income	115.87	123.88	+ 0.45	3.70
Jap Gwth Inc	198.69	212.51	- 4.56	0.33
-do- Accum	198.69	212.51	- 4.58	0.33
PEP Bond	54.06	58.49	+ 0.15	7.78
PEP Growth	147.35	157.52	- 1.16	0.75
Asian Sh Mkts Inc	137.44	147.00	- 2.43	0.34
-do- Accum	137.79	147.34	- 2.45	0.34
Amer Smlr Co Inc	208.99	223.52	- 2.09	0.01
-do- Accum	208.99	223.52	- 2.09	0.01
Global Bond	55.79	59.83†	- 0.28	5.44
UK Smaller Cos Inc	110.40	118.08	+ 0.36	1.44
-do- Accum	117.60	125.78	+ 0.38	1.44
PILGRIM UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
0191 201 3927				
American	145.16	155.49	- 0.19	.
European	95.95	102.07	+ 0.82	..
Global	71.85	76.42	- 0.14	..
Pacific	81.37	85.22†	- 1.38	.
UK Inc & Gth	82.27	87.52†	+ 0.28	1.65
PORTFOLIO FUND MGMT LTD				
Enq: 0171 638 0808 Dlg: 01277 690 430				
Emerg Mkts	50.12	53.04	- 0.28	0.98
Fund of Funds Inc	198.87	210.44	+ 0.10	0.57
Fund of Funds Acc	200.34	212.00	+ 0.11	0.57
High Income #	55.67	58.91†	+ 0.08	5.52
Performance	48.28	51.38	+ 0.01	..
PRINCIPAL UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD				
01732 740 700				
Principal Tst	180.18	191.67	+ 0.92	1.57
PROLIFIC UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
Enquiries: 0171 280 3700 Dealing: 0800 282 443				
American Income	123.50	131.30	- 1.50	3.23
Conv & Gilt	122.80	130.70	+ 0.90	4.87
European Income	91.58	97.43	+ 0.04	3.01
Extra Income	187.40	199.40†	+ 0.60	4.46
-do- Accum	249.70	261.30	+ 0.80	4.46
Far East	411.90	438.20†	- 11.90	...
-do- Accum	420.60	447.40	- 12.10	..
Global Income	29.62	31.51	- 0.10	3.79
High Income	143.60	152.80	- 0.30	4.40
-do- Accum	181.30	192.80	- 0.30	4.40
International	216.50	230.30	- 2.00	0.41
-do- Accum	225.60	240.00	- 2.10	0.41
Pref & Fxd Int	44.88	47.74	+ 0.30	7.45
Recovery	90.71	96.50	- 1.82	2.13
Special Sits	151.50	161.30	- 1.00	1.27
-do- Accum	167.90	178.60	- 1.10	1.27
Technology	729.10	775.60	+ 2.20	
UK Blue Chip	91.21	97.03	+ 0.36	2.90
-do- Accum	105.90	113.60	+ 0.40	2.90
PRUDENTIAL UNIT TRUSTS LTD				
0181 478 3377 Client Enq: 0171 911 4490				
Managed Tst	45.73	48.43†	- 0.13	1.69
Cash Haven Inc	101.47	101.97	+ 0.08	4.69
Cash Haven Acc	118.95	119.54	+ 0.09	4.69
Dist Trust Inc	107.28	111.17†	- 1.28	5.86
Dist Trust Acc	121.67	126.08	- 0.06	5.86
Global Growth	107.96	114.85†	- 0.26	1.28
Equity Inc	91.22	97.04†	+ 0.37	4.65
Equity	904.29	962.07†	+ 2.65	2.42
European	275.50	285.49	- 0.01	0.86
High Income	93.78	99.77†	- 0.04	5.25
Intl Gth	226.80	241.06†	- 1.25	1.27
Intl Sm Co	100.09	106.48†	- 0.52	0.45
Japanese	211.65	219.33†	- 4.13	
Nth Amer	244.33	253.14†	- 0.55	1.32
Pacific Mkts	120.18	124.54†	- 0.84	0.66
Premier Inc	48.70	50.68†	- 0.68	6.67
Sm Cos	114.66	121.98	- 0.09	1.75
Spec Sits	130.10	138.40†	+ 0.34	2.64
UK Growth	151.39	161.05†	- 0.69	2.15
QUILTER FUND MANAGEMENT LTD				
0171 407 5966				
Hi Inc Inv Inc	84.71	89.07†	+ 0.24	3.76
Investment Trust	118.59	124.70†	+ 0.32	0.60
UK Smaller Cos	109.21	114.84	- 0.92	1.21
RELIANCE UNIT MGRS LTD				
01892 510 033				
British Life	344.50	365.50†	- 4.40	3.39
ROTHSCHILD FUND MANAGEMENT				
Dealers: 0171 623 1000				
Five Arrows Funds				
America (Inc)	686.15	728.45†	- 2.79	0.26
America (Acc)	803.97	853.52	- 3.42	0.26
Amer Smlr Cos	61.61	65.86	- 0.27	
Asia	54.81	58.64	- 1.14	
European	426.38	451.82	- 0.13	0.43
Japan	230.51	245.15	- 2.76	
Jap Smlr Cos	40.39	43.10	- 0.68	..
Major UK Cos	122.00	130.04	+ 1.27	1.86
Smlr UK Cos	408.75	445.36†	- 2.05	1.08
UK Equity Inc	191.58	204.62	+ 1.72	4.29
Five Arrows Portfolio Fund				
Asia Pacific	51.69	54.19	- 0.47	
Cash	48.39	50.40	+ 0.02	2.88
Emerging Mkts	49.57	51.77	- 0.30	.
Europe	63.60	66.62	+ 0.29	.
Global Fixed Int #	52.82	55.16	+ 0.33	5.48
Japan	42.36	44.23	- 0.63	...
North America	72.22	75.42	- 0.32	.
UK	66.58	69.53	+ 0.11	0.52
UK Equity Inc #	63.29	66.09	+ 0.21	4.11
UK Fixed Int #	52.30	54.62	+ 0.22	7.23
Portfolio Service PEP				
Pep Gwth Port	52.67	54.58	- 0.16	
Pep Inc Port #	51.51	53.37	+ 0.12	4.25
RAM Personal Pension				
Deposit	90.45	95.21	+ 0.08	..
Gilt	102.63	108.02	+ 0.26	
Managed	120.82	127.17	+ 0.36	
Portfolio	51.70	54.42	- 0.18	
ROYAL LIFE FD MGMT LTD				
Prices: 01733 282 828 Gen Enq: 01733 390 000				
United States	127.40	135.40†	+ 1.50	0.23
Pacific Basin	82.57	86.55†	- 0.80	0.26
High Inc Dist	161.00	171.90†	- 0.10	3.84
Ryl Life Inc Dsry	65.19	68.84†	- 0.18	3.76
Ryl Life Intl Gwth	80.10	85.32	- 0.13	.
Ryl Life Intl Spec	74.70	79.46	- 0.41	.
UK Emerging Cos	141.70	153.10	- 0.80	1.35
UK Index Trckg	203.50	216.70	- 0.10	3.44
European	175.40	187.60	- 0.20	0.25
Managed	184.00	197.80	- 0.10	1.00
ROYAL LONDON UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
01206 764 400				
American Growth	202.40	215.30	- 3.70	1.32
European Growth	142.30	150.70†	.	1.94
Far East Growth	147.10	156.50	- 1.20	0.86
Japan Growth	126.40	134.40	- 2.40	0.22
Special Sits	252.40	268.50†	+ 1.60	1.91
UK Growth	104.00	110.60	- 0.20	2.87
Union General	290.70	309.30†	- 2.20	1.77
ST JAMES'S PLACE UT GROUP LTD				
0141 307 6506				
Far East Inc	176.70	187.00	- 1.30	0.64
Gt Euro Prog Inc	432.80	455.90	+ 2.40	0.47
-do- Accum	673.30	712.50	+ 3.70	0.47
Growth Inc	158.40	169.70	- 0.30	0.57
-do- Accum	163.90	173.40	- 0.40	0.57
International Inc	420.00	444.40	.	0.40
-do- Accum	581.20	615.00	.	0.40
Nth Am & Intl Inc	407.30	431.00	- 7.60	.
UK Gen Prog Inc	290.50	315.80	+ 1.20	1.04
-do- Accum	298.50	315.90	+ 1.40	1.04
UK High Inc Inc	151.50	160.30	+ 1.30	4.47
SANWA INTL INVEST SERVICES LTD				
0171 330 0572				
Asian Gwth	125.27	133.27	- 0.21	0.75
European Gwth	92.83	98.75	- 0.48	1.00
Global Bd	62.07	65.62†	+ 0.02	5.00
Japan	53.45	56.86	- 1.02	..
UK Gwth	92.18	98.06	+ 0.75	1.75
SAVE & PROSPER GROUP				
Clients: 0800 829 100 Brokerline: 0800 727 770				
Amer Inc & Gwth #	92.15	98.03	- 0.54	3.08
Amer Smlr Cos	156.60	166.60	- 1.20	.
Capital Portfolio	162.40	172.80	+ 1.90	0.50
Cash	135.30	135.30†	+ 0.10	5.26
China Dragon	67.93	72.27	+ 1.60	1.24
Commodity	153.80	163.50	- 0.60	.
Emerging Mkts	37.80	40.21	- 0.01	0.30
Energy Inds	185.50	197.30	+ 3.30	.
European Gwth	245.60	261.30	+ 0.70	0.28
Euro Inc & Gwth #	92.02	98.02	- 0.10	1.87
Euro Smlr Cos	75.27	80.07	- 0.18	0.23
Europe Income #	161.80	164.90	+ 1.00	3.50
Extra Income #	58.56	62.06	+ 0.30	5.82
Far Eastern	110.30	117.30	- 1.70	..
FE Sm Cos	44.05	46.86	- 1.23	..
Financial Secs	316.30	336.50	+ 2.40	0.75
Gold & Exploration	110.30	117.30	- 0.70	.
Growth	455.00	457.30	+ 1.90	1.67
High Income	50.26	53.26	+ 0.18	7.09
High Yield #	267.70	284.80†	+ 1.70	2.54
Intl Bond	167.90	177.40†	- 0.10	5.76
ITU	243.30	258.80†	- 0.30	0.94
Income #	137.80	146.80	+ 1.20	3.49
Japan Growth	174.20	185.30†	- 3.50	.
Japan Smaller	191.80	204.00	- 4.30	.
Korea	51.78	55.09	- 2.55	.
Latin America	41.93	44.61	+ 0.11	0.75
Masterfund	66.94	67.26	+ 0.01	0.94
Premier Eq Gth	166.50	177.10	- 1.60	0.89
Premier Eq Inc #	373.40	397.30	+ 3.10	3.88
Scotyields #	291.40	310.00†	+ 2.40	2.24
Select Intl	159.80	170.00†	- 0.29	0.67
Smaller Cos Inc #	266.10	283.10†	- 0.10	3.17
SE Asia	51.58	54.87	- 0.50	0.36
Southern Africa	57.64	61.32	- 0.72	1.33
UK & O'seas	204.30	217.30	+ 1.20	1.03
UK Eqty Gth	84.25	89.63	+ 0.85	1.36
UK Eqty Inc #	263.80	280.60	+ 2.20	4.20
UK Gth & Inc #	301.60	320.90	+ 2.60	3.31
UK Sml Cos	61.49	65.41	+ 0.02	1.26
US Growth	221.10	235.30	- 1.00	..
Univ Growth	163.60	174.00	- 0.30	0.70
SCHRODER UNIT TRUSTS LTD				
Clts: 0800 526 535 Bkr: 0800 526 540				
Retail Funds				
American	348.22	368.53	- 4.12	0.67
-do- Accum	384.05	406.45	- 4.55	0.67
European Gwth	92.56	99.13	- 0.20	0.84
Euro Smllr Cos	115.28	122.33	- 0.19	0.29
Far Eastern Gth	109.80	116.05	- 1.76	
-do- Accum	110.90	118.29	- 1.79	..
Gilt & Fixed Int #	53.13	55.98†	+ 0.13	7.56
Global Bond #	51.25	52.95	- 0.20	6.33
-do- Accum #	61.06	63.09	- 0.23	6.33
Global Emer Mkts	55.96	59.69†	- 1.16	..
-do- Accum	58.02	59.75†	- 1.16	..
Income #	424.65	452.98†	+ 2.66	4.83
-do- Accum #	£14.38	£15.34†	+ 9.83	4.83
Japan Smllr Cos	419.01	446.94	- 9.01	.
-do- Accum	419.85	447.83	- 9.03	.
Japan Enterprise	63.21	67.42†	- 1.05	
Pacific Gwth	161.12	171.86	- 2.82	0.68
-do- Accum	166.90	178.02	- 3.02	0.68
Portfolio	97.26	103.62	- 0.09	1.77
-do- Accum	108.17	115.25	- 0.09	1.77
Seoul	44.33	47.28	+ 1.82	..
-do- Accum	44.33	47.28	+ 1.82	.
Smaller Cos	324.80	346.38	- 1.18	0.64
Strategic Inc	103.80	110.53	- 0.11	2.20
Strategic Acc	104.67	111.48	- 0.11	2.20
Tokyo	123.43	131.65†	- 2.34	.
-do- Accum	124.67	132.98†	- 2.36	.
UK Enterprise	348.51	371.74	+ 2.33	2.12
-do- Accum	430.67	459.38	+ 2.87	2.12
UK Equity	311.40	332.15	+ 1.39	2.44
-do- Accum	629.40	671.35	+ 2.80	2.44
US Smllr Cos	235.19	250.86	- 3.57	..
-do- Accum	235.19	250.86	- 3.57	...
Institutional Funds				
European	297.22	308.15	+ 0.78	1.41
-do- Accum	335.85	347.99	+ 0.89	1.41
Euro Smllr Cos	38.33	39.85	- 0.04	1.08
-do- Accum	41.24	42.89	- 0.04	1.08
Global Equity Inc	94.25	98.17	- 0.25	0.67
Japan Smllr Cos	36.86	38.39	- 0.60	0.10
-do- Accum	37.22	38.77	- 0.60	0.10
Mngd Balanced	229.86	239.45†	+ 0.07	3.16
-do- Accum	270.14	281.39†	+ 0.08	3.16
Overseas Equity	223.92	233.24	- 1.08	1.05
-do- Accum	234.88	244.66	- 1.13	1.05
Oseas Smllr Cos	149.47	155.69†	- 1.60	0.96
-do- Accum	158.13	164.71†	- 1.69	0.96
Pacific	286.93	298.88	- 3.43	1.44
-do- Accum	318.09	331.34	- 3.80	1.44
Recovery	£24.09	£25.10	+ 2.72	2.87
-do- Accum	£26.51	£27.62	+ 2.99	2.87
UK Index	190.07	197.59†	+ 0.30	3.36
-do- Accum	244.93	255.14†	+ 0.39	3.36
UK Small Cos	145.44	151.50†	+ 0.11	2.31
-do- Accum	161.46	168.19†	+ 0.13	2.31
US Smllr Cos	67.86	70.66	- 1.02	0.66
-do- Accum	69.49	72.38	- 1.05	0.66
SCOTTISH AMICABLE UT MGRS LTD				
0141 204 2200				
Equity Income	60.45	63.93	+ 0.17	2.94
Equity Trust	78.88	83.20		2.67
Equity Strategy	92.23	97.53	- 0.17	1.13
European Opps	108.09	114.30	+ 0.31	0.55
UK Smaller Cos	80.15	84.76	- 0.54	1.11
Maximum Inc	95.89	101.46	+ 0.09	5.33
Japanese	76.46	80.86	- 1.77	.
Asia Pacific	124.21	131.35	- 2.11	0.45
American	135.86	143.67	- 0.94	0.20
SCOTTISH EQUITABLE FD MGRS LTD				
0800 454 422				
Cash	33.32	33.32	+ 0.02	5.28
UK General Inc	63.54	67.78†	+ 0.09	3.25
-do- Accum	86.23	91.98†	+ 0.13	3.25
Intl Income	293.08	312.04†	- 1.22	1.87
-do- Accum	518.29	551.80†	- 2.36	1.87
European	103.62	109.81	- 0.41	1.88
Japan	65.57	69.41	- 1.52	0.02
American	98.10	103.73	- 0.48	1.41
Far East	89.69	95.67	- 2.02	1.44
Ethical Inc	41.61	44.50	+ 0.13	1.78
UK Blue Chip Inc	40.99	43.60†	+ 0.25	3.12
High Inc Inc	42.49	45.21	+ 0.19	3.63
UK Global Inc	48.57	51.78†	+ 0.19	2.10
Wwide Tact	82.22	87.71	- 0.04	1.86
Europe 2000 Tact	71.11	75.60	- 0.96	1.37
Technology	162.30	172.77	+ 1.06	0.82
SCOTTISH LIFE INVESTMENTS				
0131 225 2211				
UK Equity	494.70	527.50	+ 3.10	3.10
American	358.50	380.20	- 1.30	0.40
Pacific	411.00	439.60	- 5.60	0.21
European	693.80	742.00	- 6.00	0.97
Worldwide	102.80	109.90	- 1.40	0.51
SCOTTISH MUTUAL INV MGRS LTD				
0141 248 6100				
UK Equity Inc	338.30	361.00	+ 1.80	1.97
-do- Accum	444.60	473.00	+ 2.40	1.97
UK Sm Co Eq Inc	284.00	302.20	- 0.30	1.01
-do- Accum	349.40	371.60	- 0.30	1.01
Select Oppty Inc	86.09	92.08†	+ 0.43	1.59
Income Plus Inc	83.44	88.77†	+ 0.24	3.11
European Inc	439.80	467.70†	- 1.50	0.95
-do- Accum	506.90	539.10†	- 1.70	0.95
Far Eastern Inc	182.50	194.20†	- 2.40	0.80
-do- Accum	211.60	225.20†	- 2.80	0.80
Japanese Inc	59.38	63.15†	- 1.25	.
Nth American Inc	330.10	350.80†	+ 0.80	0.28
-do- Accum	365.20	388.20†	+ 0.90	0.28
Intl Growth Inc	232.40	247.30	- 2.00	0.32
Wwide Venture Inc	95.78	101.90†	- 1.10	0.29
SCOTTISH WIDOWS FUND MGMT				
0131 668 3724				
Equity Inc	457.70	488.20	- 0.20	2.27
-do- Accum	702.70	749.40	- 0.50	2.27
UK High Inc	217.80	232.30	+ 0.30	2.56
-do- Accum	337.40	359.90	+ 0.50	2.56
Europe Inc	481.70	513.80	- 0.60	0.51
Nth Amer Inc	339.20	361.80	- 1.10	
Global Inc	265.10	282.70	- 1.70	0.18
Global Acc	286.80	305.80	- 1.90	0.18
UK Spec Sits Inc	132.40	141.20	+ 0.40	1.63
South East Asia	233.60	249.20	- 6.70	0.12
Cash Trust Inc	101.50	101.50	+ 0.10	5.05
UK Smlr Cos Inc	126.10	134.40	+ 0.10	1.58
-do- Accum	132.50	141.30	+ 0.20	1.58
Intl Bond Inc	95.34	101.70	+ 0.10	5.29
SHARP (ALBERT E)				
Enquiries: 01277 227 300 Dealing: 01277 261 010				
European	163.70	172.30	- 0.20	0.71
Nth American	145.70	153.40	- 0.40	0.05
Intl Bond & Conv	131.80	138.70	+ 0.40	6.42
Pooled Pension (I)	241.60	259.10†	+ 0.50	2.01
Smaller Cos	118.90	125.20	+ 0.40	0.71
UK General #	169.40	178.30	+ 0.50	2.12
Far Eastern	96.52	101.60†	- 1.90	..
SINGER & FRIEDLANDER INVESTMENT FUNDS LTD				
0171 626 6226				
UK Equity Inc ‡	109.92	†	- 0.07	4.71
Sterling Reserve ‡	100.60	†	+ 0.08	4.79
Preferred Income ‡	107.46	†	- 0.79	5.01
Tai Pan ‡	107.13	†	+ 0.05	
Aztec ‡	69.09	†	+ 0.11	..
Amer Gth Fund ‡	132.81	†	- 0.75	
European ‡	168.41	†	+ 0.77	
Global Bond ‡	90.09	†	- 0.09	7.62
Samurai ‡	58.45	†	- 1.07	.
UK Growth ‡	111.25	†	- 0.28	2.60
UK Emerg Leaders ‡	113.11	†	- 0.84	2.51
Investment Trust ‡	116.36	†	+ 0.34	1.47
Roll Up ‡	96.15			
Glob Gwth PEP	79.42	84.48	- 0.16	1.17
Inv Trust PEP	59.67	63.47	+ 0.32	2.44
Pref Inc PEP #	104.70	111.30†	+ 0.70	6.02
SMITH & WILLIAMSON UT MGRS				
0171 637 5377				
American	462.50	489.40		
Capital	147.90	158.20	- 0.40	1.07
Cash	100.29	100.29†	+ 0.09	5.25
European	167.10	176.80	- 0.40	0.53
Far Eastern	162.30	171.80†	- 2.80	
Growth	167.00	176.70	- 0.20	0.98
Income #	137.70	145.70†	+ 0.50	4.91
Magnum	157.20	168.30	- 0.50	1.09
Smllr Secs	551.70	583.80†	+ 3.90	0.28
Thoroughbred	183.10	196.10†	- 0.50	0.98
SOVEREIGN UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
01202 298 422				
Capital Prinance	58.03	62.06	+ 0.45	7.00
Ethical	82.68	88.43†	- 0.19	0.90
European Growth	83.15	88.17	- 0.06	1.19
Income	63.12	67.50	- 0.09	3.70
Intl Growth	114.20	121.00	- 1.50	1.24
Managed	95.58	101.30	- 0.50	1.97
UK Growth	79.75	85.29	+ 1.17	1.76
STANDARD LIFE UNIT TRUSTS				
0800 33 33 53				
Standard Life Fund Mngmt Ltd				
Global Advtg Inc	47.36	47.59	- 0.20	1.44
Global Advtg Acc	51.61	51.87	- 0.22	1.44
Income Advtg Inc	36.22	36.41†	+ 0.10	2.69
Income Advtg Acc	42.44	42.66	+ 0.11	2.69
UK Equity Gth Acc	102.10	108.30	+ 1.30	0.83
Premier Inc Inc	49.26	52.38†	+ 0.25	7.01
Premier Inc Acc	53.34	56.15	+ 0.27	7.01
Managed Acc	63.86	67.72	- 0.17	1.23
UK Eq Hi Inc Inc	41.47	43.96†	+ 0.07	3.60
UK Eq Hi Inc Acc	55.32	58.64	+ 0.10	3.60
Standard Life Tst Mngmt Ltd				
UK Equity Gen Acc	79.86	84.86		1.94
UK Equity Gen Inc	57.19	60.77†		1.94
Gilt & Fxd Int Inc	31.83	33.67†	- 0.10	6.56
Oseas Lrg Co Acc	372.20	403.90	- 2.90	1.40
Nth American Acc	60.98	64.89	- 0.05	
Pacific Basin	45.63	48.49	- 0.76	0.28
European Acc	82.50	88.41	+ 0.20	0.51
Japan Acc	26.59	28.26	- 0.56	.
STATE STREET UT MGMT LTD				
0171 344 7000				
Global A (NZ$)	4.641	4.930	+ 0.04	1.61
US Eqts (US$)	3.397	3.605†	+ 0.06	0.79
Far East Eqt (yen)	266.70	283.30†	- 7.40	
FT Europe	156.70	168.40†	+ 1.10	0.64
FT N Amer (US$)	2.630	2.794†	+ 0.06	
FT Japan (yen)	234.00	248.10†	- 6.10	
FT Asia ExJap (US$)	2.894	3.074†	- 0.01	0.54
STEWART IVORY UNIT TST MGRS LTD				
0131 226 3271				
American	557.80	590.90	+ 1.60	
British #	1317.10	1393.50†	+ 11.30	2.97
Emerging Mkts	166.00	176.80	- 0.10	0.78
Euro Small Co	62.98	67.07†	- 0.36	0.69
Japan	129.70	137.60	- 2.60	
New Pacific	438.20	466.70	- 4.80	1.11
-do- Accum	471.50	502.20	- 5.10	1.11
Inv Trust Acc	307.50	325.90	- 0.80	1.20
Mngd Equity	210.90	223.10	+ 1.20	1.69
Mngd Cash	95.46	95.46†	+ 0.07	5.15
SUN ALLIANCE UNIT TST MGMT LTD				
Enquiries: 01277 227 300 Dealing: 01277 690 389				
Equity	1115.00	1193.00	+ 4.00	2.33
North America	210.30	224.90	+ 0.90	
Far East	167.10	178.70	- 5.50	1.44
Wwide Bond	59.39	63.04†	- 0.19	4.36
European	140.30	150.00†	+ 1.10	0.97
Equity Income #	111.00	118.70	+ 0.80	4.75
Portfolio	112.70	120.50	+ 0.20	1.79
UK Leading Cos	79.95	85.26	+ 0.39	2.77
High Inc Bond	51.15	51.28	+ 0.16	6.29
Broker Trusts				
Intl Equity	78.65	84.17	- 0.37	
SUN LIFE OF CANADA UT MGRS LTD				
0800 525 725				
Antares UT	23.99	25.53†	- 0.19	0.89
Corp Bd Gilt Inc	96.73	102.91†	+ 0.81	7.35
Corp Bd & Gilt Acc	100.94	107.39†	+ 0.85	7.35
European	49.47	52.63	- 0.15	0.29
High Income	35.62	37.90†	+ 0.20	3.95
Japan	34.07	36.25†	- 0.56	0.01
Managed Assets	147.33	157.58	+ 0.17	2.22
North American	48.77	49.76†	- 0.24	0.50
Smlr Co's Inc	37.92	40.35	.	1.70
Smlr Co's Acc	41.32	43.96	+ 0.01	1.70
UK Growth Inc	65.92	70.13	+ 0.29	2.49
UK Growth Acc	74.25	78.99†	+ 0.32	2.49
UK Income	46.40	49.63	+ 0.36	3.25
Worldwide Gth	41.68	44.58	- 0.35	0.08
SLCAM				
Asian & Oceanic Ex	32.71	33.73	- 0.26	1.54
European Exmpt	98.36	101.41†	- 0.97	1.40
Japan Exempt	28.60	29.49†	- 0.47	0.12
US Exmpt	99.06	102.13†	- 0.14	1.38
SUN LIFE TRUST MGMT LTD				
Admin & Enq: 0171 606 4044 Dlg: 0171 606 6010				
Discretionary	58.87	62.56†	- 0.06	
Cap Protector Inc	48.58	51.68†	- 0.14	2.80
UK Income Inc	62.09	66.05	+ 0.07	3.20
Mngd Extra Inc Inc #	35.75	37.83†	+ 0.21	6.57
Mngd High Yld Inc	91.43	97.27	- 0.56	3.41
Mngd Inc/Gth Inc	89.47	95.18	+ 0.25	3.29
UK Smaller Cos	42.31	45.01†	+ 0.15	1.70
Pacific Gth Port	51.89	55.20	- 1.09	0.69
TSB UNIT TRUSTS				
01264 346 794				
American	317.81	336.31	- 3.08	
-do- Accum	350.05	370.43	- 3.39	
Brit Growth	122.06	129.17†	+ 0.53	1.65
-do- Accum	152.67	161.55†	+ 0.66	1.65
European	128.63	136.12	- 1.13	0.49
-do- Accum	137.39	145.39	- 1.21	0.49
Extra Income #	209.29	221.48†	+ 1.43	5.02
-do- Accum #	384.94	407.34†	+ 2.62	5.02
Smaller Cos	93.57	99.02†		0.67
-do- Accum	107.29	113.53†		0.67
General	362.86	384.00	+ 1.35	1.95
-do- Accum	775.61	820.75	+ 2.88	1.95
Premier Income	52.36	54.54	+ 0.20	6.68
-do- Accum	130.09	135.51	+ 0.49	6.68
Income	384.13	406.49	+ 2.35	3.12
-do- Accum	888.80	940.53	+ 5.45	3.12
Pacific	425.45	450.21	- 12.97	0.11
-do- Accum	447.04	473.06	- 13.63	0.11
International	647.09	684.75	- 3.77	0.09
-do- Accum	852.63	902.25	- 4.97	0.08
Nat Resources	194.04	205.34†	- 7.92	0.33
Skild Opps	130.32	137.90†	+ 0.21	0.97
-do- Accum	172.18	182.18†	+ 0.29	0.97
Environmental Inv	80.64	85.33	+ 0.37	1.19
Selector	76.29	80.73	+ 0.15	1.44
-do- Accum	88.22	93.35	+ 0.17	1.44
High Income	70.39	74.49	+ 0.40	4.17
-do- Accum	95.57	101.13	+ 0.54	4.17
Intl Income	63.96	67.69†	- 0.04	4.79
-do- Accum	85.48	90.46†	- 0.05	4.79
Selector Income	68.40	72.38	+ 0.29	4.36
-do- Accum	85.16	90.12	+ 0.36	4.36
TU FUND MANAGERS LIMITED				
0181 697 1018				
British	413.40	435.16†	+ 1.75	2.47
European	75.73	79.30	- 0.04	1.31
TEMPLETON UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0131 469 4000				
Glob Growth Inc	237.89	254.43	- 0.98	2.27
Glob Balcd Inc	196.33	209.96†	- 0.37	3.26
Value Tst Inc	147.99	158.28	- 0.03	1.86
THORNTON UNIT MANAGERS LTD				
0171 246 3000 Dealing: 0171 246 3001				
Dresdner Eur Bd	44.39	46.24	- 0.04	5.70
European Growth	348.77	365.20	- 2.56	1.00
Exempt	684.45	715.00†	+ 4.55	3.20
Global Em Mkts	84.71	88.70	- 0.65	0.58
Japan Tst	75.94	79.51	- 1.42	
Little Dragons	98.57	103.21	- 1.46	.
Nth Amer Gwth	298.32	312.38	- 2.36	0.50
Oriental Income #	47.15	49.37†	- 1.19	3.80
Preference	129.02	135.09†	+ 3.40	8.80
Tiger	301.70	315.91	- 1.14	
UK Blue Chip	79.86	83.62	+ 0.52	1.80
UK Growth	673.31	705.03†	+ 1.68	1.00
UK High Yield #	115.75	121.20†	+ 0.84	5.70
UK Mid-Cap	332.95	348.63	+ 2.02	1.70
UK Smllr Cos	134.65	140.99	- 0.08	0.70
UK Smlr Cos Div #	94.22	98.65	+ 0.46	5.60
UNITED FRIENDLY UT TST MGMT LTD				
01277 690 355				
UK Equity Income #	114.76	122.09	+ 0.62	5.18
UK Equity Growth	103.83	110.46†	+ 0.52	2.83
European	78.92	83.96†	+ 0.12	1.49
Nth American	88.78	94.45	- 0.72	0.37
Far Eastern	79.66	84.77	- 0.10	0.97
Money	71.69	71.69	+ 0.05	4.59
Fixed Interest #	90.66	96.83	[illegible]	7.46
Index Linked Gilt	73.27	77.95	+ 0.50	1.30
VIRGIN DIRECT PFS LTD				
0345 959595				
Income Trust	104.87	104.87†	- 0.31	6.79
UK Index Tracking @	132.65	132.65†	+ 0.11	2.76
WAVERLEY UNIT TST MGMT LTD				
0131 225 1551				
Australasian Gold	29.27	30.81	+ 1.32	
Pacific Basin	43.30	45.57	+ 0.25	
Global Bond (US$)	0.9122	0.9602	+ 0.02	.
Penny Share	45.03	47.40	- 1.15	
WHITTINGDALE UNIT TST MGMT LTD				
0171 623 2444				
Challenger	94.03	96.96	- 1.37	2.90
Short Dtd Gilt	125.80	126.80		.
US Govt Bd (US$)	0.7824	0.7926	+ 0.00	
Gilt Income	52.14	54.26†	+ 0.05	
Gilt Growth	78.06	81.23	+ 0.07	
Sterling Bond	49.74	51.57	...	6.70
WOOLWICH UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD				
0181 298 4000				
Intl Mgd	58.61	62.08	- 0.14	1.95
UK Stockmarket	105.30	112.00	- 0.50	3.46
Corporate Bd Inc	48.80	48.94	- 0.10	6.62
Do Accum	50.37	50.51	- 0.10	6.62

Source: FT Information

* Yield expressed as CAR (Compound Annual Return). † Ex dividend. ‡ Middle price. .. No significant data. # Periodic Charge deducted from capital. @ Exit Charge.

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RUGBY UNION

Continental drift gives players a chance to shine

By David Hands, Rugby Correspondent

WHILE administrators off the field continue wrangling over the future of European rugby, its funding, its structure and who should organise it, today the players take over. They do so with a sense of purpose, determined to show that however chaotic the preparations may have been for the second year of the Heineken Cup, the tournament itself will live up to the promise of its inaugural season.

This week alone, two new European tournaments have been projected for future years. One would involve 36 clubs in two leagues, with a cup competition as an extra, the other would be based on provincial XVs that are integral to the make-up of Scottish and Irish rugby but are far less relevant in England, Wales, France and Italy. None of this is of immediate concern to the players and coaches, particularly those in England and Scotland, whose first European experience this will be.

Bath, Wasps and Leicester are all familiar with continental opposition but only on an ad hoc basis. "When we at Bath played Toulon or Toulouse we didn't know what to expect for the first 20 minutes," Jack Rowell, the former Bath coach now in charge of England, said. "Europe will raise the standards for everyone. I see it as an evolving experience for the players."

Without committing himself, Rowell has some sympathy for the "Super 16" concept advocated by Fran Cotton, the British Isles manager next summer, which is based on divisional and provincial teams and resembles the successful Super 12 tournament run in the southern hemisphere.

The club culture that holds sway, particularly in England and France, will be hard to break down, however, and it would be no surprise if, at some time in the future, the Rugby Football Union conceded the divisional principle, so long as it had an assurance that any club side awarded a fixture against, for example, the New Zealanders, would field only English-qualified players.

The Heineken Cup and the European Conference give teams the chance to evaluate their standings in domestic rugby. It is ironic that some of those British teams involved in the second-tier tournament may have the more difficult task on their hands — of the French clubs in form, Agen, who beat Toulouse last weekend, Bourgoin and Montferrand will all play in the conference.

HEINEKEN CUP

POOL A: **Oct 12:** Bath v Edinburgh, Pontypridd v Treviso. **Oct 16:** Treviso v Dax, Edinburgh v Pontypridd. **Oct 19:** Pontypridd v Bath. **Oct 20:** Dax v Edinburgh. **Oct 26:** Bath v Dax. **Oct 27:** Edinburgh v Treviso. **Nov 2:** Dax v Pontypridd, Treviso v Bath.

POOL B: **Oct 12:** Llanelli v Leinster, Pau v Scottish Borders. **Oct 16:** Leinster v Leicester, Scottish Borders v Llanelli. **Oct 19:** Leicester v Scottish Borders, Llanelli v Pau. **Oct 26:** Pau v Leicester, Scottish Borders v Leinster. **Nov 2:** Leicester v Llanelli, Leinster v Pau.

POOL C: **Oct 12:** Brive v Neath. **Oct 13:** Caledonia v Ulster. **Oct 16:** Ulster v Harlequins, Neath v Caledonia. **Oct 19:** Harlequins v Neath. **Oct 20:** Caledonia v Brive. **Oct 26:** Neath v Ulster. **Oct 27:** Brive v Harlequins. **Nov 2:** Harlequins v Caledonia, Ulster v Brive.

POOL D: **Oct 12:** Munster v Milan. **Oct 13:** Wasps v Cardiff. **Oct 16:** Cardiff v Munster, Milan v Toulouse. **Oct 19:** Toulouse v Cardiff, Munster v Wasps. **Oct 26:** Wasps v Toulouse. **Oct 27:** Cardiff v Milan. **Nov 2:** Toulouse v Munster, Milan v Wasps.

QUARTER-FINALS: Nov 16 and 17. **Semi-finals:** Jan 4 or 5 1997. **Final:** date to be confirmed

"We need to be sure the balance between Europe and domestic rugby is right, so that the domestic tournaments are not devalued," Rob Smith, the Wasps coach, said. Smith regards the game against Cardiff at Loftus Road tomorrow as the first opportunity for an English and a Welsh club to play each other in a meaningful tournament, as opposed to the old-style friendly fixtures and the haphazard Anglo-Welsh tournament of this season, which is leading nowhere.

"We need to find out what challenges are involved and how we adapt to them," Smith said. Wasps will do so with Gareth Rees in his international position of stand-off half because Alex King has injured a shoulder. Jonathan Davies, who is likely to spearhead Cardiff's bid to improve on their runners-up position of last year, was hoping to examine King's qualities at close quarters but is now faced by the chunky Rees, with the even chunkier Va'aiga Tuigamala outside him and Lawrence Dallaglio champing at the bit inside him.

Wasps, in pool D, must qualify against Toulouse, the holders, whose young midfield player, Thomas Castaignède, believes England's best teams need to be taught a lesson. "To win the European Cup a second time will be fine, to do so by beating the English is even better," he said. "They look down on the rest of us, I hope they resent missing the first European Cup. Now it's up to them to prove they deserve to win it."

Inevitably the tournament will catapult new names into the limelight: Richard Governley, only 17, plays stand-off for Leinster against Llanelli today; Andrew Lucking, a medical student, pits his 6ft 9in, 18st frame against Bath in Edinburgh's second row; Garan Evans seeks fresh laurels at full back for Llanelli.

The impact the tournament will make on the public remains in doubt because, since the withdrawal of ITV, there is no uniformity in broadcasting the event. Welsh viewers, who were well served last season, will get more of the same from BBC Wales and S4C. RTE will show Munster's game with Milan live and FR2 in France and Tele Piu in Italy have primary rights — but the event remains an unknown quantity for English viewers. *Rugby Special* announced a five-week sabbatical last Sunday but there is optimism that it will be back by next weekend.

Italians can convince Euro-sceptics

Michael Lynagh tells **David Hands**, rugby correspondent, of the cup threat posed by an emerging nation

DAVE ROGERS / ALLSPORT

Lynagh believes that leading Italian clubs can make a mark in the Heineken Cup

Seven days ago, Welshmen received a stern reminder of the qualities of Italian rugby when their national side was relieved to come away from Rome with a somewhat breathless victory. The Heineken Cup, which begins today, offers the Italians another stage on which to advance their claims to parity with the establishment of the five nations.

It is important that they succeed. The point of a European competition is to take all sides into unfamiliar territory, not, say, for Harlequins to end up playing Cardiff. In that respect, it is unfortunate that both of Italy's representatives, Milan and Treviso, begin away from home, against Munster in Cork, and Pontypridd at Sardis Road, respectively.

"One of these days an Italian side — possibly the national team, maybe one of the better clubs — will give an established side a hiding," Michael Lynagh said. "When they do they will get so much confidence from it that it will be like a shot in the arm for Italian rugby." Lynagh speaks with the authority of one who played four years in Treviso before joining Saracens this season.

Not that Lynagh, formerly the Australia stand-off half and captain, will be involved in European competition. Last season, he was part of the Treviso team in the inaugural year of the Heineken Cup, but Saracens missed out on both the cup and the European Conference, the second-tier tournament that also begins today.

In any case, Lynagh is still a week away from his first match since damaging a shoulder while playing against Wasps on September 8. He hopes for a comparatively gentle resumption against Cambridge University next weekend. But he will be watching with interest to see how Treviso fare against Pontypridd, where Milan came unstuck a year ago.

"There is a vast gulf now between Treviso, Milan and the rest of Italian club rugby, whereas when I first went there, there were five or six teams who were pretty competitive," Lynagh said. "Now it's a foregone conclusion which teams will meet in the final."

Indeed, Treviso finished top of *Serie A1* last season, only to lose the final to Milan, despite a 17-3 interval lead. It was Diego Dominguez, the diminutive Argentinian, who kicked Milan back into the match, and Lynagh has a healthy regard for his talents which, if Munster give him space, could prove damaging to Irish prospects.

Lynagh also believes that the Milan forwards, led by Massimo Cuttitta, the national captain, will prove a handful, though Treviso are without two of their best back-row forwards, Carlo Checchinato and Julian Gardner, who are both injured.

"All the good players have gravitated to the two best clubs, which may be good for the national side but is not a healthy situation for Italian rugby generally," he said. "But the economic situation in Italy has caused sponsors to look carefully at their involvement and some first-division clubs do not have backing this season.

"Part of the problem for Italian teams is that they take time to get going. Last year Treviso won their first game really well and then lost narrowly away to Toulouse [the eventual winners of the Heineken Cup]. We went in against Toulouse with the attitude that we wanted to avoid disgrace, to be able to leave holding our heads high. In fact we could have won the match and that experience will make them all the keener to do well second time around."

SQUASH

Jackman's path eased by defeat for Martin

From Colin McQuillan in Petaling Jaya, Malaysia

CASSANDRA JACKMAN'S campaign for the women's world open championship took an unexpected boost here yesterday when Michelle Martin, the apparently invincible defending champion, was beaten in the quarter-finals by Liz Irving, her Australian compatriot, 4-9, 10-9, 9-5, 9-5 in 46 minutes.

Jackman, 23, the No 4 seed from Norfolk, who has displayed more fluent balance than before in her early matches here, almost routinely defeated Sabine Schone, the German No 1, 9-2, 9-2, 9-4 in 25 minutes.

More surprisingly, Jackman was later joined in victory by Sue Wright, 26, from Kent, who needed precisely the same time to defeat Suzanne Horner, the No 3 seed and British national champion from Yorkshire, 9-4, 9-0, 9-4 to earn a semi-final place against Sarah FitzGerald, from Australia, the No 2 seed.

FitzGerald, 27, a former world junior champion, has long had her eye on becoming the first woman to convert that particular junior success into senior pre-eminence, and was abrupt — 9-2, 9-1, 9-1 — with Carol Owens, her young Australian compatriot, in their quarter-final. She described the encounter with Wright, whom she recalls as a "pudgy" kid who played second string for England when she won her junior title in 1987, as "interesting".

Much more pertinent to FitzGerald's ambition of upgrading titles is the surprising exchange of Irving for Martin in Jackman's top-half semi-final, which offers high prospects of a second former world junior champion reaching the final tomorrow.

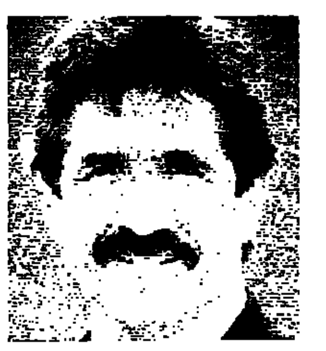
Jackman took the junior title in 1991 and declared herself "well pleased" to see Martin, the only player to have won three successive world open titles, fall despite leading 5-1 in the last two games.

"Michelle lost that match rather than Liz winning it," Jackman said. "I have to see it as a helpful result."

Results, page 47

Harlequins offer Welsh stark reminder of former glories

GERALD DAVIES



Rugby Union Commentary

Standing on the touchline before the Swansea game ten days ago, Dick Best, the Harlequins coach, reminisced about the old Anglo-Welsh fixtures and confessed candidly his respect for the Welsh game. The fixtures in the new Anglo-Welsh Cup would prove invaluable experience, he felt, for those in his squad as yet unschooled in rugby's highways and byways outside England.

There was hardly anyone in that evening's team that you might call "celebrated", yet, in the event, they left St Helen's with a satisfying 34-30 victory after exhibiting a skilfully swift and teasing style that forced others to acknowledge those rugby values other than the bone-crunching kind.

Harlequins have not wholly sacrificed the image, which they have carefully fostered over the decades, of the loose-limbed dilettantes with finer things than rugby on their minds — like opera, fine claret and, of course, stocks and shares. Even now that rugby is a professional sport, the something-in-the-City image is not entirely absent, of a Knightsbridge flat and a retreat in the shires. An Earl's Court bedsitter may be closer to the truth, but the old aura is hard to shrug off. Image does not always coincide with reality.

Indeed, it may be that what they once thought of, in a gadabout sort of way, as a good, blokish wheeze with optional extras, like finding connections for a good job or a modish girlfriend, may now turn out to be an even better way of life altogether. Other clubs look sternly on and take themselves ever so seriously while the Harlequins players look like the cats who are slurping the cream. Imagine getting paid handsomely for doing something which is a great deal of fun. This is too good to be true, they will conclude.

The lightness of touch is still there in the impression they convey when they are playing. Nowadays, they are fit, fast, skilful and efficient, which has not always been the case. Professionalism has come to rest so easily on one of England's most fogeyish of clubs. The transition for them has been seamless.

Harlequins is, for the moment, a club with a smile on its face. It should continue to nurture it if it is wise. Others may soon become too solemn. Harlequins' mood is rare and it will not be easy to keep the ball rolling. It will be a much-valued commodity.

At present Harlequins are winning and are doing so with enviable style, although, as Best himself readily admits, the really testing time lies ahead of them. But who at this moment would not wish to be a card-carrying member of the club? They are a splendid side to watch.

Cardiff are the Harlequins' Welsh equivalent, though never quite with the same pretensions to high society. Their rugby reputation, however, was somewhat better. Cardiff have been seen to occupy a privileged position, even if only for the fact that they belong to a capital city and, like their London counterparts, had once played in their country's national stadium. They were not bad at playing the game, either. There was, rightly or wrongly, a social and playing *caché* attached to both.

Yet there is a noticeable shift. Harlequins are buoyantly riding the wave of rugby's revolution. Cardiff are surely not.

On Wednesday, for the second time in a week, Harlequins travelled westwards along the M4. They returned home from Cardiff more abundantly rewarded, with a 53-24 win, than they had done a week previously from Swansea. The home team enjoyed the bigger share of the territorial advantage, but what use was this if, without speed of thought and inventiveness, they could not, in the early stages, cross the opposition line. Their play was predictable and prone to error.

The three tries they scored emerged from grafting persistence. Admittedly, all tries should be gratefully received however they are come by, but there was a sense of generous sweep and movement about the Harlequins' tries of the kind that Cardiff once was proud. More, the visitors' handling was crisp and precise; somebody always in position to move forwards. The Harlequins players, backs and forwards alike, made their decisions upon the instant, when the ball was in their hands, not predeterminedly, like Cardiff, before the ball arrived. It is an important and crucial distinction, the difference that separates the manufactured player from the instinctive one.

Thus far, Bridgend have beaten Wasps and Llanelli managed a draw against Bath. This is the sum total of Welsh successes out of 17 games in the Anglo-Welsh Cup.

In the meantime, Welsh clubs have been taking shelter behind the excuse that this competition, even though it is partly of their own making, serves no purpose. They prefer to concentrate, they say, on fixtures that lead to exposure in the rest of Europe. If that is the case, then the moment of truth is upon them. The time for talking is over. The moaning must end. The European competition begins this weekend.

It is also the time to prove whether the respect in which Best once held Welsh rugby remains authentic. Or, after a week of exposure, can he already put his feelings down to a simple dose of sentiment and nostalgia; a thing of the past.

'The players look like cats slurping the cream'

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GOWER STUMPS BT.

On this week's 'They Think It's All Over,' David Gower really stumped the opposition. He knocked Rory McGrath for six by declaring "I'm on Mercury and they're 20% cheaper [than BT]." It seems our message is really getting home. And poor old Rory is on a sticky wicket.

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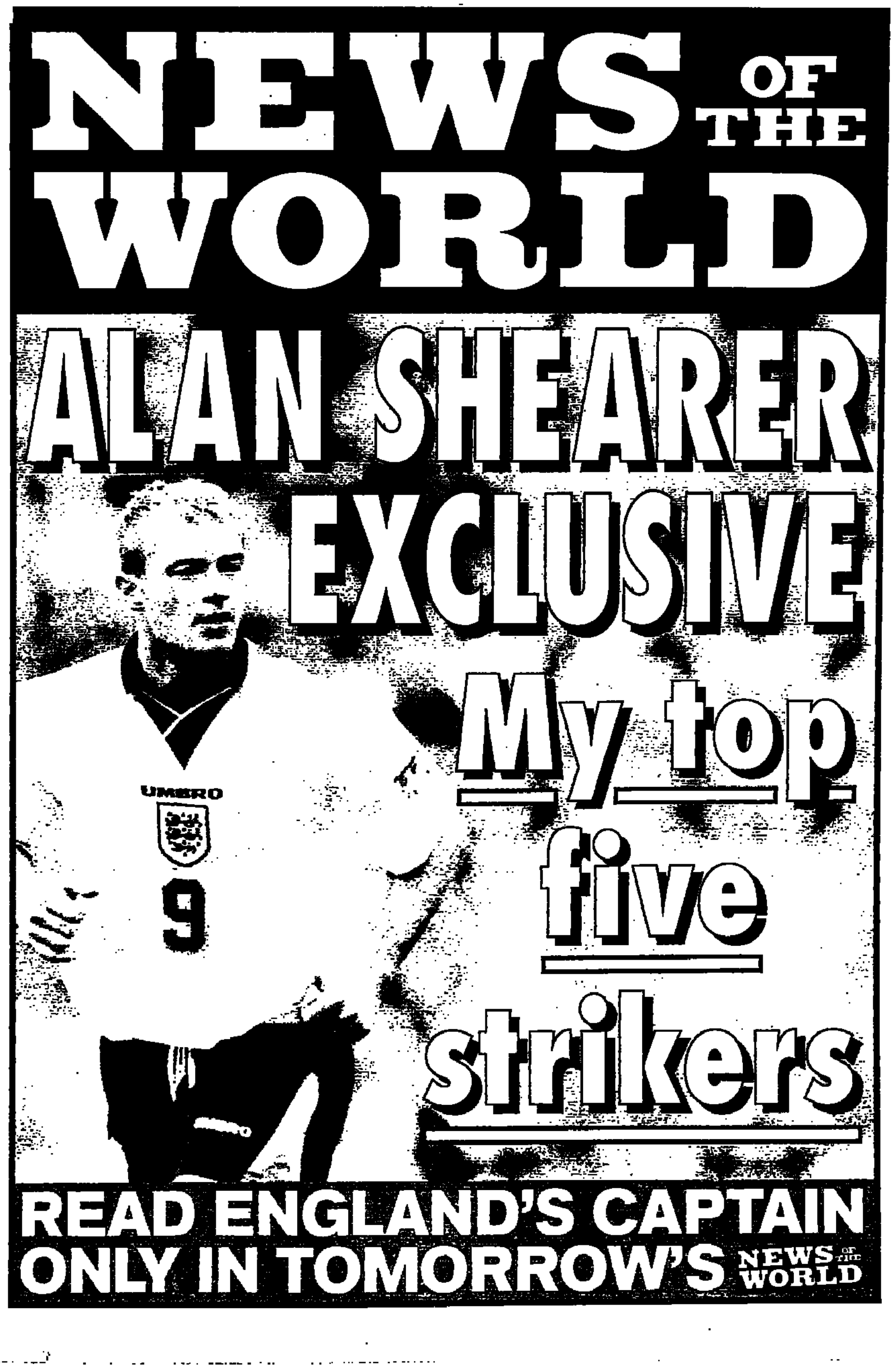


NEWS OF THE WORLD
ALAN SHEARER EXCLUSIVE
My top five strikers
READ ENGLAND'S CAPTAIN ONLY IN TOMORROW'S NEWS OF THE WORLD

CYCLING

Swiss set sights on second world title

BY PETER BRYAN

THE decision to hold the world road racing championships in October, at the end of a season that started in early February, has yet to be fully welcomed by the combatants, especially in an Olympic year, but when the week-long series ends in Lugano tomorrow, hundreds of thousands of spectators are expected to line the 16.8-kilometre circuit for the elite (previously known as the professional) title race in the Swiss Alps.

The absence of cycling's biggest name, Miguel Induráin, who seems close to a final decision to retire, and the Olympic champion, Pascal Richard, will not detract from the importance and interest of the 252-kilometre championship.

Switzerland have high hopes, after Alex Zülle's wins in both the Tour of Spain and Thursday's world time-trial championship, together with Tony Rominger's third place in the Spanish tour and bronze medal in this week's time-trial, but most eyes will be on Italy's 12-strong squad, which is likely to provide its first champion since Gianni Bugno won his second world title in 1992. Bugno, nearing the end of his career, will work hard, if necessary, for his colleagues, especially Andrea Ferrigato and Roberto Pistore. The course favours specialist climbers and, on present form, Laurent Jalabert and Richard Virenque, of France, cannot be discounted.

Max Sciandri, the Olympic bronze medal-winner on a similar course in Atlanta, has a dedicated British team supporting him, led by Sean Yates, his Motorola colleague and former wearer of the yellow jersey in the Tour de France, who is competing in his last big international event.

CRICKET: MISSED STUMPING COSTS AUSTRALIA DEAR IN ONE-OFF TEST MATCH

Century from Mongia puts India in command

BY OUR SPORTS STAFF

NAYAN MONGIA became the first India wicketkeeper in 12 years to score a Test century as his team established a strong position at the end of the second day of the one-off Test match in Delhi yesterday.

Mongia, 27, scored a career-best 137 not out as India reached 319 for six by the close of the second day's play, giving them a first-innings lead of 137. Australia, bowled out for 182 on the opening day, face a massive task as the wicket continues to deteriorate.

Mongia, drafted in to open the innings in the absence of Navjot Sidhu, who is serving a 50-day ban for walking out of the recent tour of England, put on 131 for the second wicket with Saurav Ganguly, who made 66. India looked poised to put themselves in an unassailable position when they reached 144 for one soon after lunch.

However, Australia fought back in the afternoon, removing Ganguly, Sachin Tendulkar, the captain, who made only ten, and Mohammad Azharuddin, his predecessor, with only 55 runs added to their total.

Rahul Dravid then contributed a rapid 40 in a 61-run stand for the fifth wicket with Mongia. Mongia's vigil on the way to his maiden Test century has so far lasted six hours and 26 minutes, during which he hit 17 boundaries.

Syed Kirmani was the last India wicketkeeper to score a Test century when he made 102 against England, led by David Gower, in 1984.

"I have confidence in my batting abilities, it was only a matter of time before the century came," Mongia, whose previous best score was 80 against the West Indies at Bombay two years ago, said. "I was timing the ball so well. I just wanted to keep going."

Mongia was not concerned that the selectors could drop him down the order when Sidhu returns for the forthcoming series against South Africa. "I'll be happy to bat anywhere," the wicketkeeper, who is playing his fourteenth Test, said. "The important thing is to do well for India."

Mongia spent 45 minutes in the 90s before reaching the three-figure mark soon after tea. Australia were left to rue a missed stumping by Ian Healy off Peter McIntyre before Ganguly had added to his overnight score of 19. Ganguly moved to 66, but missed equalling Azharuddin's feat of three centuries in his first three Test matches when he top-edged a pull off Brad Hogg to Mark Waugh at slip.

Ganguly, who made 131 on his debut at Lord's in June and followed that with 136 at Trent Bridge, hit ten fours and a six. Two overs after his departure Tendulkar lazily cut McIntyre, the leg spinner, to give Waugh a second slip catch. Glenn McGrath then removed Azharuddin's off stump with a ball that kept low to reduce India to 199 for four.

India supporters sent their best wishes to Shane Warne, the Australia leg spinner who has missed the tour to recover from surgery, with a poster at the ground that read: "Shane Warne, we miss you, love India".

☐ *Ed Giddins, the former* Sussex fast bowler, will have his appeal against a 20-month ban for using cocaine heard by the Test and County Cricket Board's appeal committee on November 9.

SCOREBOARD

AUSTRALIA: First Innings 182 (A Kumble 4 for 63)

INDIA: First Innings

V S Rathore c Ponting b Reiffel	5
†N R Mongia not out	137
S C Ganguly c M E Waugh b Hogg	66
*S R Tendulkar c M E Waugh b McIntyre	10
M Azharuddin b McGrath	17
R S Dravid c Healy b S R Waugh	40
S Joshi c Ponting b McIntyre	23
A R Kapoor not out	8
Extras (b 5, lb 1, nb 7)	13
Total (6 wkts)	319

A Kumble, B K V Prasad and D Johnson to bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-13, 2-144, 3-169, 4-199, 5-260, 6-303.

BOWLING: McGrath 23-9-43-1; Reiffel 14-5-34-1; S R Waugh 13-5-25-1; McIntyre 34-6-100-2; Hogg 17-3-69-1; M E Waugh 12-0-42-0.

Umpires: P Willey (England) and S Venkataraghavan (India).

KAMAL KISHORE

Ganguly takes evasive action as a short-pitched ball goes down the leg side

Company just says no to Dole's slogan over drugs

SIMON BARNES

On Saturday

Sport is increasingly controlled by commerce, and much of what happens in modern sport comes down to the question of selling plimsolls. Selling involves not the plimsoll itself, but the name stuck on it: thus a company such as, say, Nike, seeks to be tough and ultra-groovy, but also groovily caring and toughly responsible. Thus part of the company's self-promotion is involvement in the anti-drugs campaign, under its own slogan: "Just do it (say no!)"

Politicians are, of course, equally keen to be seen on the side of the angels, and Bob Dole, the American presidential candidate, spelt out his own anti-drug message: "Just don't do it."

Nike did not cheer him for his support. They spoke out against him. Their PR man, Jim Small, said: "While we support the senator's goal of keeping kids away from drugs, our slogan is based in sports and we would have preferred him to use a slogan that is more relevant to this issue." Quite right, too. They've got plimsolls to sell. Priorities are, after all, priorities.

Claret and blues

I hear of a French rock group, good enough to have played support to such luminaries as Deep Purple and Z. Z. Top, that calls itself Aston Villa. They were, apparently, inspired by the club's relegation struggles of a couple of seasons back.

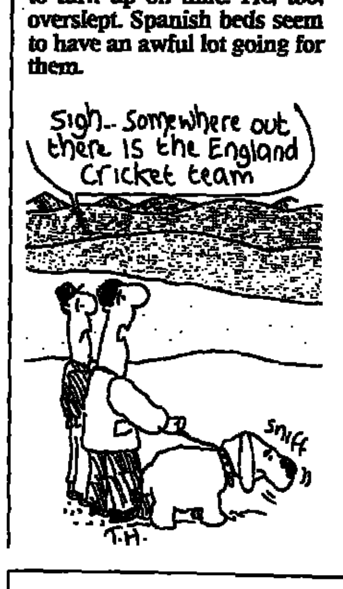
☐ *Redruth College have been unable to fulfil their rugby fixture in the Daily Mail Schools Cup. Their rugby posts have been stolen — twice.*

Official excuses

The Estonia football team's failure to get to their match against Scotland needs to be set in a larger context. It is clearly something going around. Dave Corneby, a Hampshire referee, missed the Clubsaver Hampshire League second division battle between Mayflower and Tadley by going to the wrong ground. Mike Barnard writes to send me this gem from *The News* in Portsmouth. A league spokesman explained: "It seems his wife had gone off shopping with the car and the match details were left inside."

Meanwhile, Romario arrived an hour and a quarter late for training at Valencia on Thursday, explaining cheerfully that he had overslept. He has already been in trouble for training insufficiently hard, and has responded with the modest claim that, at 30, he is too old to train like the other players.

And, meanwhile again, Sam Torrance, the golfer, was disqualified from the Oki Pro-Am in Madrid when he failed to turn up on time. He, too, overslept. Spanish beds seem to have an awful lot going for them.


Sigh.. Somewhere out there is the England cricket team
Sniff
T.H.

Nun too pleased

Faithful readers will recall the footballing nun. Sister Pierangela inspired the people of Montalone, in Italy, by playing football and "dancing like a cowboy". She was therefore removed to Carpi by the Oblate Order of the Virgin Mary of Fatima. Now, alas, she has gone home to the US, from whence she came as Connie Marie Dodge.

She told her friends in Montalone that this is "for reasons more serious and more grave than can be made public". The story inspired the national press, and the order received a visit from a reporter and photographer. Priests, displeased, closed the gates — with the press inside. Eventually, they were rescued by the *carabinieri*. But alas, poor Sister Pierangela. It is a sad day for footballing nuns everywhere.

Novel approach

Ian Botham, whose similarity to Proust has often been remarked upon, is, as you probably know, a novelist. His latest *oeuvre*, completed with some help from Dennis Coath, is about, Coath tells me, "sex and drugs and rock and roll in cricket". The book, punningly entitled *Deep Cover*, has a cartoon cover with an uncovered lady prominent thereon.

Coath says that book-sellers are under the strange impression that the novel, despite (or more likely because of) the naked lady, is about cricket coaching. He has seen it displayed alongside such titles as *Sporting Injuries for Beginners*, *Fencing to Win* and J. R. Hartley's *Guide to Flyfishing*. Has Coath overlooked the possibility that these might also be raunchy novels? They certainly sound that way to me.

Mapped out

You will, I am sure, be pleased to know that the England cricket squad will go to Portugal for a week in November, for "warm-weather training" before their tour of the handily adjacent countries of Zimbabwe and New Zealand. I am intrigued to learn that the programme includes participation in orienteering. The usual suggestions that "English cricket has lost its way" can now be sternly refuted.

Poet's corner

Finally, a spot of poetry from Roger McGough, the only professional poet ever to have beaten this column at ping-pong. Here is something from his latest, *Sporting Relations* (Viking, £10.00).

Cousin Daisy's
favourite sport
was standing
on street corners.
She contracted
with ease
a funny disease.
Notwithstanding.

HOCKEY: LEADING CLUBS FACE WEEKEND OF HECTIC COMPETITION IN NATIONAL LEAGUES

East Grinstead hit the road

BY SYDNEY FRISKIN

IT PROMISES to be a busy weekend for East Grinstead, a weekend spent twixt hotel room and hockey pitch, living out of a suitcase in pursuit of points in the premier division of the National League. It fact, it promises to be a busy weekend for all 12 teams in the division as they play on Saturday and Sunday, but East Grinstead are the only side with two away matches, at Cannock on Saturday before moving on to London to play Teddington at Chiswick.

As the distance between East Grinstead, in East Sussex, and Cannock, in the Midlands, is more than 150 miles, the overnight hotel expenses of the visitors will be paid by the league management. However, in order to keep the players together, East Grinstead will spend tonight at Hemel Hempstead on the way to London and will have to pay their own hotel expenses, which will amount to about £400.

"You win some, you lose some," was the reaction of Brian Poole, East Grinstead's liaison officer, who announced no changes in the side that beat Surbiton 5-0 last week. The focus of attention will again be Bhatti, who scored three goals in that match.

Cannock, the leaders and title-holders, have also announced an unchanged side, but are concerned about Chris Mayer, who suffered a head injury during training on Tuesday and spent the night in hospital. It is doubtful whether he will play on both days. After the game against East Grinstead, Cannock will travel to Canterbury and stay the night at Maidstone, where their hotel expenses will also be paid. They will still have to spend about £200 on transport.

Canterbury are still awaiting the return of four Wales players who have been involved in the World Cup qualifying tournament in Italy. Although they must have a reasonable chance of beating Guildford today, their task against Cannock tomorrow looks formidable.

Beeston should have little difficulty holding their position as first division leaders when they visit Lewes tomorrow. First-round matches in the Hockey Association Cup are also scheduled to be played tomorrow, but Southampton and Old Kingstonians have withdrawn, allowing Hampstead and Winchester walkover victories.

Wallace swaps the sun for Slough

BY A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

EACH October, Ashleigh Wallace puts on her trainers and heads for the beach at Camps Bay in Cape Town. After an easy run, she might indulge in a game of beach volleyball or start work on her tan for the summer.

Not this year. As the first Springbok to play in the women's National League premier division, Wallace is coming to terms with the serious business of training with Slough as they prepare to capture a fifth league championship.

Wallace, 31, earned 18 caps as a midfield player for the Springboks, but, after losing her place last year, she moved to England and joined the club she knew would give her the opportunity to play good, hard, competitive hockey.

Nobody would argue with her choice. As well as playing alongside such illustrious players as Karen Brown and Sarah Kelleher, the Ireland international, Wallace is also relishing the prospect of European competition.

"It's been great so far," she said. "I've had a lot of support and it's been a pleasure training with a squad who are so professional and mentally strong. What I really admire is how hard they work at practices — in Cape Town, we have the luxury of two water-based artificial surfaces to train on and I realise just how we waste our time and mess around at training. Slough have 1½ hours a week on a sand-filled pitch."

Slough's unbeaten run has given them a three-point cushion at the top of the table, ahead of the Bristol team, Clifton, who they face tomorrow. Wallace knows that the clash will be a stern test, but she is looking forward to it, as she is to taking on the holders, Hightown and Ipswich.

She said: "I've heard so much about them and that's why I'm here. There's never an easy game, they're all so tight. I'd say that the top clubs in South Africa would hold their own, but the weaker ones wouldn't stand a chance. One thing I have noticed is how technical all the players are. At home, we tend to just get on with it and go out and play."

There are, of course, a few drawbacks, such as the weather: "I know there's a lot worse to come. I can't imgine what it must be like when there's snow and ice around." And the travelling: "That's been the biggest shock to my system. We travelled to Doncaster last week — we think a 20-minute trip is ridiculous in Cape Town. Still, making sure of a regular place in the starting line-up and winning the title will make it all worthwhile."

DRUGS IN SPORT

IOC agrees to bring in new tests

BY JOHN GOODBODY

OLYMPIC officials plan to introduce a test next month to detect erythropoietin (EPO), the drug that can aid competitors in endurance events and is suspected of having caused several deaths in cycling. EPO, which increases the number of oxygen-carrying red blood cells, has already been banned by the International Olympic Committee (IOC).

Prince Alexandre de Merode, the president of the IOC Medical Commission, said after a meeting of the executive board in Lausanne yesterday: "We still have to look into the legal aspects of the test, as we always do, but that should be a formality."

Much of the work on identifying the artificial use of EPO has been carried out at the University of Quebec in Canada. It is used clinically to treat kidney diseases.

Up to 18 cyclists, many of them based in Belgium and Holland, are reported to have died having used the drug in the 1980s. When used in large doses, experts say it can damage the circulatory system, possibly leading to a heart attack.

EPO is one of the two biggest drugs problems that the IOC has to face. The other is the use of human growth hormone, which is so far undetectable.

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BASEBALL

Orioles switch on the power to level series

ONE day after having victory literally snatched away from them by a 12-year-old New York Yankees fan, the Baltimore Orioles struck back on Thursday, beating the Yankees 5-3 to level the best-of-seven American League Championship Series at 1-1 (Keith Blackmore writes).

The Orioles have lodged an official protest about the opening game of the series, in which Jeff Maier reached out from the stand and caught a ball before it could drop into the hands of a Baltimore fielder, turning a routine out into a crucial home run for New York. Their chances of a reversal seem slight but they might not need it.

The Orioles' primary weapon is their power hitting and they used its full force at Yankee Stadium, Todd Zeile and Rafael Palmeiro striking two-run homers. "That's the way we are," their manager, Davey Johnson, said. "If you make a mistake, we'll hit it out."

It was a mistake of the tactical variety that helped the St Louis Cardinals to their surprising victory, 8-3, over the Atlanta Braves, levelling the National League Championship Series at 1-1.

The Braves manager, Bobby Cox, deliberately loaded the bases to allow Greg Maddux to pitch to Gary Gaetti, an apparently out-of-form hitter. Gaetti hit his second pitch for a grand slam home run.

FORTHCOMING COMPANY GOLF DAYS

TITLE SPONSOR
Mees Pierson

The companies listed have registered their golf day for the 1997 Challenge. The top four individual scores on the day will form the company team eligible to qualify for a regional final.

Date	Company name	Venue	Players
13 OCT	ERNST & YOUNG	GLENGORSE	20
16 OCT	THE MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS BUSINESS	SUNNINGDALE	40
18 OCT	EBS	KINGSWOOD	45

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"They Think It's All Over," BBC1 11.50pm.

[هكذا من الأصل]

هكذا من الأصل

GOLF: RANK OUTSIDERS FORCE DEFENDING CHAMPIONS TO LOSE THEIR GRIP ON DUNHILL CUP

Scotland's wounds reopened by India

By John Hopkins
GOLF CORRESPONDENT

SOMETIMES, there is no helping Scotland when it comes to sport. The nation that sends out its sportsmen with their heads filled with choruses of *Flower of Scotland* sometimes has to welcome them back after they have brought little credit to the saltire.

No one needs reminding of the day when Paraguay beat Scotland in the Dunhill Cup three years ago and it will be a long time before it is forgotten how, as defending champions, the Scots were humbled 2-1 by India at St Andrews in the same competition yesterday. After a defeat by Sweden on Thursday, Scotland are out of the twelfth Dunhill Cup.

It was a victory by rank outsiders. Whereas Montgomerie and Andrew Coltart are in the leading 70 players in the world, Jeev Singh and Gaurav Ghei are jointly 696th while Ali Sher, the third Indian, is unranked.

TODAY'S DRAW

GROUP ONE: United States v Spain (10 0) Italy v England (10 30)
GROUP TWO: Zimbabwe v Scotland (11.0), India v Sweden (11 30)
GROUP THREE: Canada v Wales (9 0), South Africa v Ireland (9 30)
GROUP FOUR: Australia v New Zealand (12.0); Japan v Germany (12 30)

Singh had to go to the extra hole before he beat Andrew Coltart, the Scot taking three putts from 35 feet. Montgomerie, ranked No 2 in the world, contributed to his own defeat. He three-putted four times and it took a birdie three on the last hole for him to break 80. Gaurav Ghei birdied the opening hole and, from that moment on, Montgomerie was up against it.

His troubles increased on the 6th, where his ball hit a rake lying outside a bunker and was deflected into the sand into a position from where he took two strokes to get out. Then the Scot three-putted the 7th. "Rakes should be in the hazard," Montgomerie said. "There are a lot of bunkers on this course and therefore a lot of rakes outside them."

Yesterday, the Old Course bared its venerable teeth. A gusting wind blew from the west and, as the skies darkened, rain showers threatened all day. Talk of new course records, prevalent when Mark O'Meara stood ten under par on the 17th tee the previous day, was blown across the sands and into the icy, white-capped sea of St Andrews Bay.

Greg Norman, of Australia, drove out of bounds on the 14th, which he described as an inexplicable lapse of concentration. It was a difficult tee from which to drive, with the wind coming from the right bringing the Beardies bunkers into play. Jonathan Lomas had a nine there, as did Ali Sher. Greg Turner and Phillip Price matched Norman's seven, and Rick Gibson, Mark Mouland and Tony Johnstone had eights.

Norman nevertheless edged home against Sven Struver, of Germany, and Wayne Riley, after driving into the Swilcan Burn, beat Heinz-Peter Thul. A clean sweep was completed when Steve Elkington defeated Thomas Gogele. The Australians were never in difficulty, which is more than could be said for New Zealand, the other team in their group, who were beaten 2-1 by Japan.

Joe Ozaki equalled the lowest score of the day, a 69, which was too good for Frank Nobilo and, although Grant Waite levelled the score, Kazuhiro Takami became the second member of his team to go round in less than 72, outscoring Greg Turner 70-73.

For a while, unseeded England looked as though they were going to pull off an upset and defeat the United States, the No 1 seeds. Barry Lane, playing the part of team captain to perfection by recording relentless pars, was too good for O'Meara.

Lomas held a four-stroke lead over Steve Stricker on the 12th tee, an advantage that was halved when the American birdied the hole. There was a greater swing on the 14th, where Lomas hit two drives out of bounds. Two ahead on the tee, he was three behind walking off the green.

Phil Mickelson, one of the best putters in the world, was initially off form against Lee Westwood, who led by one stroke after 15 holes. Mickelson's 3-4-3 finish emphasised why he is leading the money-list in the United States and has won four tournaments. Putts of four feet, 12 feet and five feet on the last three greens were enough for him to give the United States a one-stroke victory.

IAN STEWART

Coltart, of Scotland, who was eventually beaten by Singh, of India, at the extra hole, takes meticulous care over a birdie putt at the 3rd

DUNHILL CUP RESULTS AND TABLES

GROUP ONE: United States 2 England 1 (United States names first). M O'Meara 75 lost to B Lane 72; S Stricker 75 bt J Lomas 79; P Mickelson 72 bt L Westwood 73. Spain 2 Italy 1 (Spain names first): M A Jiménez 69 bt S Grappasonni 79; I Garrido 74 bt E Canonica 79; D Borrego 76 lost to C Rocca 73.

	P	W	L	Games won	Pts
United States	2	2	0	4	2
England	2	1	1	4	1
Spain	2	1	1	2	1
Italy	2	0	2	2	0

GROUP TWO: Zimbabwe 0 Sweden 3 (Zimbabwe names first): A Johnstone 76 lost to P Sjoland 73; N Price 75 lost to J Sandelin 75 at 19th; M McNulty 73 lost to P Hedblom 72. Scotland 1 India 2 (Scotland names first): A Coltart 74 lost to J Singh 74 at 19th; C Montgomerie 79 lost to G Ghei 78; R Russell 71 bt A Sher 84).

	P	W	L	Games won	Pts
Sweden	2	2	0	5	2
India	2	1	1	3	1
Zimbabwe	2	1	1	2	1
Scotland	2	0	2	2	0

GROUP THREE: Ireland 3 Canada 0 (Ireland names first). D Clarke 76 bt R Gibson 80; P Harrington 73 bt R Todd 73 at 19th; P McGinley 71 bt J Rutledge 77. South Africa 2 Wales 1 (South Africa names first): R Goosen 78 lost to P Price 73; E Els 70 bt M Mouland disqualified; W Westner 72 bt P Affleck 76.

	P	W	L	Games won	Pts
Ireland	2	2	0	5	2
South Africa	2	2	0	4	2
Wales	2	0	2	2	0
Canada	2	0	2	1	0

GROUP FOUR: New Zealand 1 Japan 2 (New Zealand names first): F Nobilo 73 lost to N Ozaki 69; G Waite 72 bt H Meshiai 73, G Turner 73 lost to K Takami 70. Australia 3 Germany 0 (Australia names first): W Riley 74 bt H-P Thul 76; G Norman 71 bt S Strüver 73; S Elkington 71 bt T Gogele 80.

	P	W	L	Games won	Pts
Australia	2	2	0	5	2
Japan	2	1	1	3	1
New Zealand	2	1	1	3	1
Germany	2	0	2	1	0

SPORT IN BRIEF

Rusedski's record runs into trouble

THE 139.8mph service with which Greg Rusedski won his quarter-final match against Jean-Philippe Fleurian, of France, at the Beijing Open on Thursday is likely to remain an unofficial world record because of technical limitations at the event. Officials said the speed could not be confirmed because Information Display Systems, the company that calibrated timekeeping equipment for the ATP Tour, was not at the tournament. "Right now it's an unofficial record," Steve Casey, the ATP Tour director of communications, said. "It's unfortunate."

Rusedski, the British No 2, brushed off that disappointment yesterday, however, by reaching the semi-finals of an ATP Tour tennis event for the fourth time this year with a 6-3, 6-4 victory over Gustavo Kuerten, of Brazil, to secure a meeting with Byron Black, the No 4 seed, from Zimbabwe.

Rusedski's previous semi-finals this year have been at Sydney in January, Nottingham in June and Singapore last week.

Benn incident inquiry

BOXING: British officials are to interview Nigel Benn, the former World Boxing Organisation (WBO) super-middleweight champion, over an alleged altercation in a London nightclub. Benn will be asked to appear before the British Boxing Board of Control (BBBC) to answer questions at its next meeting — just days after his WBO championship rematch with Steve Collins, from Ireland, on November 9 in Manchester. A BBBC statement said: "We have noted recent newspaper reports concerning an alleged incident at a nightclub involving Nigel Benn and as a result the board has decided to inquire further into this matter." A man was said to need 105 facial stitches after the reported incident.

Britons on final lap

TRIATHLON: The International Triathlon Grand Prix (ITGP) reaches its climax this weekend with the final event in Phuket, Thailand. Simon Lessing and Spencer Smith, of Great Britain — who, between them, have won the past five world titles over the Olympic distance — are competing for their share of the $500,000 (£320,000) prize purse. Neither can top the ITGP rankings for the year, as both have missed races, leaving Brad Beven, of Australia, as the favourite for the overall honours. Ben Bright, who jointly heads the rankings with Beven, is not competing.

Goulding fitness hope

RUGBY LEAGUE: Bobbie Goulding, the St Helens captain, is confident of being fit for the three-match series between Great Britain and New Zealand, which begins next Friday, despite suffering his second injury in a week. Goulding, who played against a Lion Red Cup XIII on Thursday despite an injury to his right foot, limped off late in the match with an inflamed left tendon. He has been told to rest and will miss training tomorrow. His value was shown by match-winning performances in the first two internationals of the tour, in Papua New Guinea and Fiji.

Batten defends title

ROWING: Gwin Batten, the Olympic single sculls finalist, will defend her women's pairs head title from Hammersmith to Mortlake today with Elise Laverick, who sprang to prominence by winning a sculling bronze for Great Britain in the Nations' Cup in July. Rorie Henderson, the winner of the men's title last year with Peter Haining, his fellow Scot, is eleventh on the starting list in partnership with Niall O'Toole, the Ireland Olympic sculler, although their appearance is doubtful, with O'Toole still in transit and Henderson suffering a head cold.

Sorenstam leaves Davies trailing

By Our Sports Staff

ANNIKA SORENSTAM, of Sweden, had a round of 66, six under par, to take a two-stroke lead after the first day of the inaugural Betsy King Classic women's tournament in Reading, Pennsylvania. Sorenstam, the 1995 LPGA rookie of the year, led Julie Piers, of the United States, by two shots and Cindy Schreyer, also of the United States, and Laura Davies, of Great Britain, by three.

Davies is in the middle of a string of 20 events in 21 weeks. She is second on the LPGA money-list with $771,628 (about £500,000), trailing Karrie Webb by $56,275. Davies is also second in Europe, trailing Helen Alfredsson, of Sweden, by $3,126. Last year, Sorenstam became the first golfer, male or female, to top the money-list on two tours in the same year.

Next week Davies plays in Sicily. "It's a challenge," she said. "It's madness really. I'm in this position as as result of a great year. I'll probably end up with neither money title since I'm going for both."

After two birdies and a bogey on the front nine, Sorenstam surged home with six birdies and only one bogey on the back nine. She had three consecutive birdie putts from less than six feet. The Swede sank short birdie putts on the 15th and 16th before three-putting from 30ft for a bogey on the 17th. She capped the round by chipping to within five feet and sinking the birdie putt on 18th.

"Today was just my day," Sorenstam said. "I was never in-between clubs all day and I just looked at the ball and it went in. It's nice to get this round in early. I was a little nervous on the tee today because I really wanted to play well," added Sorenstam, who was coming off her worst performance of the year, a tie for thirtieth at the Big Apple Classic.

"I suppose I have been taking things for granted. Maybe I need a little nervousness to get me motivated," she said.

Seven players, including Liselotte Neumann, of Sweden, and Caroline Pierce, from Britain, were on 70.

United Distillers taste success

By Mel Webb

AN IMPORTANT team golf competition was held in Scotland yesterday — and so was the Alfred Dunhill Cup. In the one that really mattered, the Scottish regional final of *The Times* MeesPierson Corporate Golf Challenge, the prize was taken by a team whose company is devoted to the production of that most Hibernian of beverages, Scotch whisky.

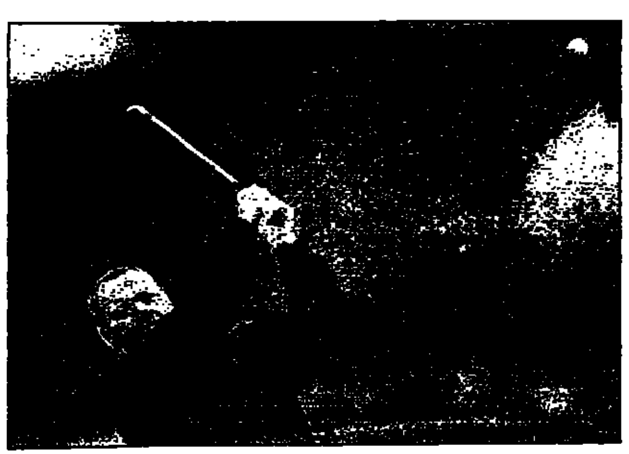
The final was won by four employees of United Distillers and they did it the hard way, battling their way through high winds and bitter cold across the broad and beautiful acres of Dalmahoy to come in with a total of 86 Stableford points, one ahead of McDermott Marine Construction. The British Pacing Group were third on countback from Ross Hall Hospital and BP Oil.

The winning team of Ian Ross, Gary Haggart, Barrie Miller and David Tennant won their place in this, the third in the 12-tournament regional series, by beating allcomers in their company golf day. United Distillers obviously do not believe in making things easy for their players. This year, they staged their company day at Gleneagles and the winning quartet beat 180 fellow workers from all over central Scotland.

Democracy is quite obviously highly valued at United Distillers. All four work on the production or transport divisions of the company and their team captain is Frank Robson, the director of production, grain distilling.

Ross, a lorry driver, was the solid backbone of the team. A Clackmannanshire county player, he has recently been cut from a handicap of three to two and, on a testing day, the quality of his golf was accurately reflected in his round of 75, three over par. He scored 35 points off his own ball — and the rest all did their stuff, too. Haggart, eight handicap, scored 27, Miller picked up 30 off 12 and Tennant registered 32, a fine haul off 18.

THE TIMES MeesPierson CORPORATE GOLF CHALLENGE



Scott Shaw, of KFJ Resourcing Ltd, plays the 7th

The team started on the 10th and four times in the first five holes, picked up six points. Nobody started better than Tennant. On the team's second hole, a 435-yard par four, he hit a full driver and a full one-iron (18-handicappers hitting one-irons? Surely not). He then promptly rammed in a 25-foot downhill putt for a net eagle and four points.

The team looked to have things parcelled up neatly by the turn — 46 points for their first nine holes, probably the more difficult half — and when they wobbled slightly on the way home, they picked themselves up with a five-pointer on the 6th and another on the 7th, where Ross hit a 197-yard three-iron into the teeth of the wind to two feet for an easy birdie and three points. It sealed their victory. Next stop, La Manga.

SCORES: 86: United Distillers. 84: McDermott Marine Construction Ltd. 83: British Pacing Group; Ross Hall Hospital; BP Oil UK Ltd (British Pacing third on countback of last nine holes). 82: Dowell 81: KFJ Resourcing Ltd. 80: Seaforths Travel Ltd. 79: Park Lane Investments (Scotland) Ltd; BP Chemicals; Shendon Leisure. 78: Coutts Career Consultants; Simpsons Malt Limited; Paull & Williamsons 77: Scottish Oils Ltd; Tubular Industries Scotland Ltd. 76: AOC International Ltd; Alan Steel (Asset Management). 75: DFDS Transport; Standard Life Assurance Co. 74: Amoco (UK) Exploration Company. 73: Caledonian System Consultants Ltd. 72: Expro North Sea Ltd 69: Co-operative Insurance Society 68: Orion Engineering Services Ltd.

ICE HOCKEY

Dutch pay price for poor defence

By Norman de Mesquita

WHILE Sheffield Steelers prepared to meet CAI Hielo Jaca, the champions of Spain, in group C of the European Cup in the Sheffield Arena last night, Steaua Bucharest, the champions of Romania, and Tilburg Trappers, their counterparts form Holland, met in the opening game, which the Romanians won, but not as easily as the 5-2 scoreline would indicate.

Both goaltenders made some excellent saves in a scoreless first period, but Phil Eboli finally broke through shortly after the interval to give the Trappers the lead.

Inside three minutes, Christian Daia scored the first of two goals to bring the scores level. He was helped by a dreadful clearance by David Bouckaert, which was an unfortunate feature of the Tilberg performance.

In addition, they picked the wrong time to change their lines and seemed to have all their players either skating to or from the bench when Daia accepted a pass from Roberto Cazacu to give Steaua the lead for the first time.

Steve Kruize levelled for the Trappers four minutes later, but Steaua regained the lead when Viorez Nicolescu scored from close in while they were on a power play.

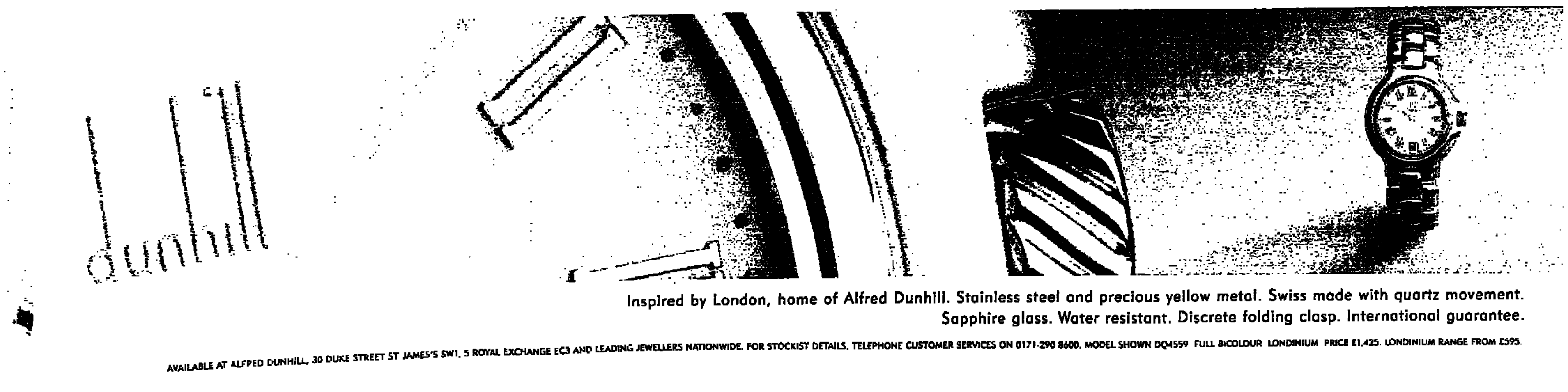
Ioan Timaru stretched the Steaua lead early in the third period and, although they made most of the running, they had Viorel Radu, their goalminder, to thank for preserving their two-goal advantage when he came out bravely to deny Tiko van Gerwen.

Tilberg tried to adopt a more physical style of play, but Steaua would not be intimidated or drawn into any confrontations that might have brought them penalties.

With little more than two minutes to go, Doug Mason, the Tilberg coach, removed his goalminder to put an extra forward on the ice, but the move backfired and Nutu Andrei scored into the empty net.

Sheffield are due to meet Tilberg tonight and Steaua tomorrow. If, as expected, the they win the group, they will travel to Finland for the semi-final stage.

dunhill



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RACING: NEWMARKET TRAINER RECOVERS FROM SETBACKS

Altamura can maintain Gosden's impressive run

By Richard Evans, racing correspondent

AFTER a spring and early summer which would have driven lesser men to despair. *John Gosden is enjoying a* stunning streak of success which looks set to continue at Ascot this afternoon.

Having suffered a double mid-season blow, which saw his best three colts sidelined by injury and many horses affected by illness, Gosden was then the subject of a highly personalised attack in racing's normally compliant trade press, which hurt him deeply.

"I didn't appreciate a knife in the back. Kicking people when they are down is not the correct way of carrying on," he said yesterday.

A flood of winners in recent weeks, including a first classic success with Shantou in the St Leger and an Arc weekend treble, has helped to balance the books and reward the patience of one of Britain's most intelligent trainers.

Gosden said: "We went a little bit to the bottom and when you come back it is *satisfying. You have to go to* the bottom to find out just how satisfying. But this has always been a rollercoaster sport. You are either a hero or a villain".

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: MUSICAL SEASON
(3.35 Ascot)
Next best: **Altamura**
(3.00 Ascot)

Gosden has every chance of remaining the punters' hero at Ascot in the Princess Royal Stakes (3.00), where Altamura holds a favourite's chance. The progressive El Gran Senor filly has improved with every run this term and appreciated the step up to a mile and a half at the royal course 13 days ago when accounting for Time Allowed and Russian Snows. Altamura meets those two rivals on more favourable *terms and probably has most* to fear from Spout and Papering.

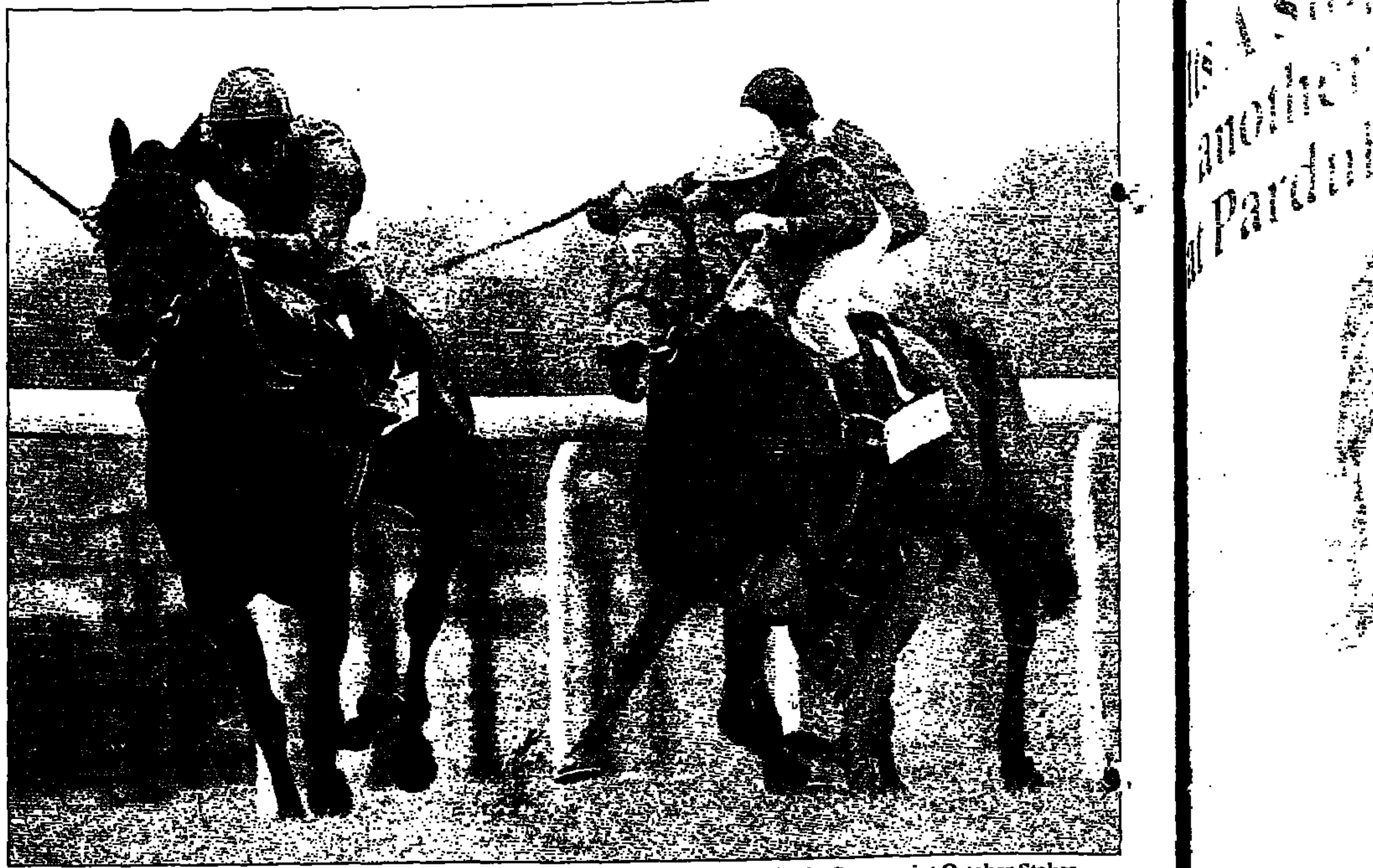
Spout, runner-up to Last Second over an inadequate ten furlongs in the Sun Chariot *Stakes last week, will appreci*ate the return to a mile and a half, while the Luca Cumani-trained Papering was an excellent second to My Emma in the group one Prix Vermeille. *Interestingly,* Cunning, also trained by Cumani, was second in the same Arc trial before winning this race in 1992, but **Altamura** can continue Gosden's hot streak.

Half an hour earlier, *Gosden is not without a* chance in the Willmott Dixon Cornwallis Stakes (2.30) with Head Over Heels, who runs in the colours of his wife, Rachael Hood.

The return to five furlongs should suit, but she may find Easycall, winner of a brace of group two races, and Carmine Lake, have too much class. *Preference is for* **Carmine Lake**, who did exceptionally well against older rivals in the *Prix de l'Abbaye at Long*champ last Sunday.

York has proved a favourite hunting ground this season for David Loder, another trainer whose season got into top gear in mid-summer. He looks to have found an ideal opening for **Teofilio** (2.45) after a promising debut behind High Roller at Yarmouth 23 days ago.

HUGH ROUTLEDGE



Dettori lands another Ascot winner with Fatefully (left), who beats Scarlet Plume in the Bonusprint October Stakes

Musical Season to strike right note

TODAY'S RACES ON TELEVISION

ASCOT
BBC1

2.00: **High Roller** *has been* talked of as a Derby horse since opening his account in *sparkling style at Yarmouth* last month. Henry Cecil's Generous colt will be a short price to follow up here. Catwalk, winner of the Sweet Solera Stakes before disappointing at Doncaster, would have a chance if bouncing back to form, but the progressive Barnum Sands looks a bigger threat.

2.30 and **3.00**: see above.

3.35: To The Roof and Portelet, drawn one and two, next to the stands' rail, love to force the pace, as does Swynford Dream. Given *the likely fast pace and good ground,* **Musical Season** should go close. The Portland Handicap win*ner did particularly well to* take seventh in the Ayr Gold Cup when badly drawn. Royal *Dome is suited by coming* from off the pace but must defy a wide draw. Royale Figurine is the class act but is arguably better over six furlongs. Samwar looks a bigger danger.

YORK
CHANNEL 4

3.15: In a tricky race, **Nightbird** makes some ap*peal despite the step back in* distance. When Barry Hills's filly beat Tinkerbell at Newmarket she showed plenty of pace. Reliquary won a Haydock maiden impressively before disappointing behind *Bahhare in the Champagne* Stakes. However, David Loder's runner got upset in the *stalls at Doncaster and can be* forgiven a below-par effort.

3.45: Despite the large field, **Foist** makes considerable appeal off 7st 10lb. After three respectable runs over sprint distances, the Mick Easterby runner enjoyed a break before showing much improved form here and at Beverley when stepped up in trip. He did particularly well when a close third to Thatched last time. Impulsive Air ran well behind *Gladys Althorpe at Doncaster* but is inconsistent and drawn wide. Gloriana and Cuban *Reef make some appeal.*

4.15: Mr Bergerac and Double Splendour were both placed behind Coastal Bluff when favourably drawn in the Ayr Gold Cup. Double Splendour goes particularly well on the Knavesmire. Bollin Joanne did well from a bad draw in the Ayr race and looks a threat, but preference is for **Palo Blanco**. *He was not* discredited from a poor draw in the Silver Cup at Ayr after a ten-week *absence.*

4.45: **Barrel Of Hope** is a speculative choice for the in-form Les Eyre. The four-year-old showed he was returning to form when fourth behind Garnock Valley at Haydock last Sunday. He should appreciate the step up to seven furlongs and showed his liking for this track when second a year ago. *The consistent* Keston Pond and Superpride are others for the shortlist.

RICHARD EVANS

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10/1 Double Splendour
10/1 Mr Bergerac
12/1 Garnock Valley
12/1 Bollin Joanne
12/1 Pearl D'Azur
14/1 Benzoe
14/1 Cretan Gift
14/1 Lord Olivier
14/1 Palo Blanco
14/1 Saint Express
16/1 Bajan Rose
16/1 Bayin
18/1 Seigneurial
18/1 Tedburrow
20/1 Caricature
20/1 Cyrano's Lad
25/1 Portend
28/1 Antonias Melody
28/1 Stylish Ways
33/1 Don't Care
33/1 Double Blue
33/1 Takadou
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ASCOT

THUNDERER
2.00 High Roller
2.30 Carmine Lake
3.00 **SPOUT** (nap)
3.35 Samwar
4.10 Daunt
4.40 Andreyev
5.15 Toujours Riviera

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating:
5.15 A CHEF TOO FAR.

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 2.00 High Roller, 3.00 Papering.

GOING: GOOD (GOOD TO SOFT IN PLACES) SIS
TOTE JACKPOT MEETING DRAW: 5F-1M STR, LOW NUMBERS BEST

2.00 AUTUMN STAKES BBC1

(Listed race: 2-Y-O: £12,195: 1m rnd) (5 runners)

101	(3)	411	BARNUM SANDS 25 (D,F,S) (Aylesfield Farms Stud) J Dunlop 8-11	T Quinn	98
102	(2)	54115	BLUE RIVER 29 (D,F,S) (M Legg) T Mills 8-11	B Doyle	98
103	(1)	1	HIGH ROLLER 23 (D,F) (Baron G von Ullmann) H Cecil 8-11	Pat Eddery	◉
104	(4)	651214	SHEER FACE 17 (D,F) (A de V Patrick) W Muir 8-11	J Reid	96
105	(5)	610	CATWALK 30 (F) (M Brower) W Haggas 8-10	L Dettori	95

BETTING: 4-5 High Roller, 5-2 Barnum Sands, 5-1 Catwalk, 12-1 Blue River, 16-1 Sheer Face.

1995: BEAUCHAMP KING 8-11 J Reid (3-1) J Dunlop 5 ran

FORM FOCUS

BARNUM SANDS beat Cinema Paradiso 3l in conditions race at Sandown (1m, good to firm). BLUE RIVER beat Lady Godiva 1¾l in nursery at Newmarket (1m, good to soft). HIGH ROLLER beat Teofilio 5l in maiden at Yarmouth (1m, good to firm). SHEER FACE 4l 4th of 15 to White Hot in auction race at Goodwood (7f, good to firm). CATWALK beat Fernanda head in listed race at Newmarket (7f, good to firm).
Selection: BARNUM SANDS

2.30 WILLMOTT DIXON CORNWALLIS STAKES BBC1

(Group III: 2-Y-O: £22,295: 5f) (12 runners)

201	(12)	111416	EASYCALL 9 (D,F,G) (Easycall Partnership) B Meehan 9-4	M Tebbutt	98
202	(7)	311335	DEEP FINESSE 9 (D,F,G,S) (J Sims) M Jarvis 9-1	Pat Eddery	93
203	(3)	0165	BLUE RIDGE 55 (D,F) (Saleh Al Homeizi) R Hannon 8-12	M J Kinane	85
204	(1)	520311	CHECK THE BAND 7 (D,G) (J L Jones Jr) A O'Brien (Ire) 8-12	C Roche	91
205	(8)	3152	GRAND LAD 23 (D,G) (H Hart) R Armstrong 8-12	R Hills	94
206	(9)	105511	MELIKSAH 9 (D,F) (Y Baroi) M Bell 8-12	M Fenton	90
207	(10)	124226	OMAHA CITY 21 (D,F) (B Gubby Ltd) B Gubby 8-12	B Doyle	91
208	(5)	615431	RUDI'S PET 43 (D,G) (The Broadgate Partnership) R Hannon 8-12	Dane O'Neill	87
209	(4)	226621	SUPERIOR PREMIUM 6 (D,S) (J Parsons) R Fahey 8-12	A Culhane	85
210	(6)	13145	CARMINE LAKE 6 (D,F) (R Sangster) P Chapple-Hyam 8-10	J Reid	99
211	(11)	311242	HEAD OVER HEELS 22 (D,F,G) (Mrs R Hood) J Gosden 8-7	L Dettori	96
212	(2)	31	SABINA 12 (G) (The Queen) I Balding 8-7	T Quinn	75

BETTING: 7-2 Carmine Lake, 9-2 Check The Band, 6-1 Easycall, 7-1 Head Over Heels, 8-1 Superior Premium, 10-1 Deep Finesse, Sabina, 12-1 others.

1995: MUBHIJ 8-12 W Carson (6-5 fav) B Hills 7 ran

FORM FOCUS

EASYCALL beat Compton Place 1½l in 7-runner group II Polypipe plc Flying Childers Stakes at Doncaster (5f, good to firm) with DEEP FINESSE (3lb better off) 1¾l 3rd and HEAD OVER HEELS (1lb better off) neck 4th. DEEP FINESSE 2½l 5th of 11 to Bahamian Bounty in group I Middle Park Stakes at Newmarket (6f, good to firm) with EASYCALL (3lb worse off) 1l 6th. CHECK THE BAND beat Fairy Song 1½l in 11-runner listed race at The Curragh (6f, good to yielding). MELIKSAH beat Hattab 1½l in 9-runner nursery at Newmarket (5f, good to firm). RUDI'S PET beat Perpetual 1l in 8-runner nursery at Sandown (5f, good). CARMINE LAKE 3¾l 5th of 10 to Kistena in group I Prix de l'Abbaye de Longchamp (5f, good to soft). HEAD OVER HEELS 2l 2nd of 6 to Queen Sceptre in listed race at Ayr (6f, good to firm).
Selection: EASYCALL (nap)

YORK

THUNDERER
2.15 Durham
2.45 Teofilio
3.15 Nightbird
3.45 Pride Of Pendle
4.15 Astrac
4.45 Keston Pond
5.15 Daawe

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 4.15 PEARL D'AZUR (nap).

GOING: GOOD SIS
DRAW: NO ADVANTAGE

2.15 EQUITY FINANCIAL COLLECTIONS HANDICAP

(£8,480: 1m 5f 194yd) (20 runners)

1	(13)	016153	HIGHFLYING 14 (CD,F,G,S) (B Batey) G Moore 10-10-0	D Griffiths (5)	95
2	(3)	0/21000	KADASTROF 120 (D,G,S) (A Palon) R Dickin 6-9-11	J Carroll	90
3	(20)	526012	DOMAPPEL 124 (BF,F,G,S) (M Banks) Mrs J Cecil 4-9-8	J Weaver	91
4	(1)	634526	MIDYAN BLUE 21 (CD,G) (K Palmer) J Eustace 6-9-7	R Cochrane	96
5	(8)	2-60664	WARBROOK 8 (F) (J Smith) I Balding 3-9-6	M Hills	◉
6	(16)	502206	LOOKINGFORARAINBOW 72 (C,D,F,G) (B Sarntally) B Jones 8-9-5	M Wigham	95
7	(2)	341-000	MEANT TO BE 14 (F,S) (Lady Mumford) Lady Herries 6-9-3	A Clark	90
8	(14)	505212-	TURNPOLE 197J (F) (W Williams) Mrs M Reveley 5-9-3	G Lee (5)	90
9	(10)	0/0/	DAWADAR 672J (G,S) (J Goldie) J Goldie 9-9-2	A McGlone	–
10	(4)	412110	DURHAM 14 (B,D,F,G) (Secret Partners) H Howe 5-9-1	O Urbina	97
11	(17)	00/60-50	KAITAK 51 (S) (C Murphy) J Carr 5-9-1	R Hughes	95
12	(7)	465606	LORD HASTIE 15 (D,F,G,S) (Mrs J Bendall) C Thornton 8-8-11	J Fortune	98
13	(11)	3-10553	EAU DE COLOGNE 12 (F,S) (G Reed) C Thornton 4-8-9	O McKeown	96
14	(6)	222531	BEAUMONT 17 (F,G,S) (P Cunningham) J Banks 6-8-8	J Quinn	98
15	(12)	461-433	SIO FOR GOLD 46 (BF,S) (Windflower Inc) J Dunlop 3-8-6	T Sprake	92
16	(18)	412222	BLENHEIM TERRACE 44 (BF,G) (A Lyons) C Booth 3-8-3	L Charnock	97
17	(5)	450000	FIGHTING TIMES 75 (J Graves Ltd) C Smith 4-8-3	C Rutter	89
18	(9)	0155-00	MARCHANT MING 21 (F) (R Roper) M Hammond 4-8-2	G Carter	91
19	(19)	03420/0-	BROCTUNE BAY 312J (C Buckley) Mrs M Reveley 7-8-0	T Williams	–
20	(15)	200020	COMPASS POINTER 14 (Park Lane Racing) J Eustace 3-8-0	N Kennedy	96

BETTING: 5-1 Beaumont, 7-1 Sio For Gold, 15-2 Domappel, 8-1 Highflying, 10-1 Midyan Blue, 12-1 Durham, 14-1 Turnpole, 16-1 others.

1995: TUDOR ISLAND 6-9-6 L Dettori (9-2) C Brittain 13 ran

2.45 EUROPEAN BREEDERS FUND SURFACHEM MAIDEN STAKES

(2-Y-O: £6,212: 7f 202yd) (11 runners)

1	(6)		ARISAIG (Mrs J MacPherson) P Calver 9-0	M Birch	–
2	(8)	05	GOOD JUDGE 24 (J Brown) M Hammond 9-0	K Fallon	84
3	(4)	0	HADIDI 24 (H Al Maktoum) D Morley 9-0	R Cochrane	80
4	(11)	5	HIDDEN MEADOW 91 (G Strawbridge) I Balding 9-0	M Hills	90
5	(3)	6	NOIRIE 14 (Miss D Woods) M Brittain 9-0	M Wigham	87
6	(9)		POLARIZE (J Baggott) T Barron 9-0	J Fortune	–
7	(7)	0	RUSSIAN ASPECT 14 (RDM Racing) M W Easterby 9-0	G Parkin (5)	–
8	(1)	2	TEOFILIO 23 (B Nielsen) D Loder 9-0	R Hughes	◉
9	(5)	0	KEEPSAKE 12 (T Barker) M Usher 8-9	R Street	–
10	(2)	3	MYSTIQUE AIR 23 (T Scothern) E Weymes 8-9	L Charnock	97
11	(10)		SAAEEYA (A Al Maktoum) J Gosden 8-9	J Carroll	–

BETTING: 7-4 Teofilio, 7-2 Saafeya, 6-1 Mystique Air, 7-1 Hidden Meadow, 8-1 Noirie, 10-1 Hadidi, 12-1 Polarize, 14-1 others.

1995: COMMITTAL 9-0 L Dettori (1-2) J Gosden 8 ran

3.15 COLDSTREAM GUARDS ROCKINGHAM STAKES C4

(Listed race: 2-Y-O: £9,846: 6f) (5 runners)

1	(4)	145115	FOR OLD TIMES SAKE 23 (F,G,S) (Mrs B Blum) J Berry 8-11	G Carter	98
2	(1)	14	RELIQUARY 29 (D,F) (Sheikh Mohammed) D Loder 8-11	R Hughes	94
3	(5)	113245	VICTORY DANCER 42 (B,D,F,G) (A Cunliffe) B Meehan 8-11	J Weaver	90
4	(3)	1411	NIGHTBIRD 11 (D,F,G) (S Tindall) B Hills 8-6	M Hills	◉
5	(2)	1325	SAMSUNG SPIRIT 72 (D,S) (T Scothern) E Weymes 8-6	J Quinn	87

BETTING: 4-5 Reliquary, 4-1 Nightbird, 9-2 For Old Times Sake, 6-1 Victory Dancer, 10-1 Samsung Spirit.

1995: RESOUNDER 8-11 L Dettori (6-4) J Gosden 5 ran

FORM FOCUS

FOR OLD TIMES SAKE beat Bold African 1¾l in 6-runner conditions race at Ripon (5f, soft). RELIQUARY 9¾l last of 4 to Bahhare in group II Laurent-Perrier Champagne Stakes at Doncaster (7f, good to firm). VICTORY DANCER 4¾l 4th of 7 to Ballade Viennoise in listed race at Vichy (7f, soft). NIGHTBIRD beat Tinkerbell ½l in 14-runner nursery at Newmarket (7f, good). SAMSUNG SPIRIT 6¾l 3rd of 5 to Fernanda at York (6f, good).
Selection: RELIQUARY

3.00 PRINCESS ROYAL STAKES BBC1

(Group III: £32,300: 1m 4f) (11 runners)

301	(3)	11-2643	RUSSIAN SNOWS 13 (D,F,S) (Godolphin) Saeed bin Suroor 4-9-5	M J Kinane	89
302	(1)	3-16132	SPOUT 7 (CD,G,S) (Lady Rothschild) R Charlton 4-9-3	Pat Eddery	94
303	(9)	22-5602	ASTERITA 16 (F) (B Nielsen) D Loder 4-9-0	W R Swinburn	90
304	(10)	550610	POPPY CAREW 27 (C,D,F,G) (Mrs P Harris) P Harris 4-9-0	G Hind	93
305	(8)	2-31141	ALTAMURA 13 (CD,F,G) (Sheikh Mohammed) J Gosden 3-8-7	L Dettori	97
306	(6)	1	NAAZED 15 (G) (H Al Maktoum) A Stewart 3-8-7	R Hills	75
307	(5)	5-31030	NINOTCHKA 51 (D,S) (Miss K Rausing) J Dunlop 3-8-7	T Quinn	99
308	(2)	031222	PAPERING 27 (F) (Sheikh Mohammed) L Cumani 3-8-7	K Darley	◉
309	(7)	122333	PRIOLINA 14 (B,D,G) (J Keeling) J Hayden (Ire) 3-8-7	O Peslier	93
310	(11)	2-16002	ROSES IN THE SNOW 47 (F) (G Howard-Spink) J Hills 3-8-7	F Lynch	80
311	(4)	212222	TIME ALLOWED 13 (D,BF,F) (R Barnett) M Stoute 3-8-7	J Reid	97

BETTING: 3-1 Papering, 7-2 Altamura, 4-1 Spout, 5-1 Time Allowed, 7-1 Russian Snows, 8-1 Priolina, 10-1 Poppy Carew, 12-1 others.

1995: LABIBEH 3-8-6 W Carson (16-1) J Dunlop 5 ran

FORM FOCUS

SPOUT 2l 2nd of 9 to Last Second in group II Sun Chariot Stakes at Newmarket (1m 2f, good to firm). POPPY CAREW beat Ellie Ardensky 1¼l in 7-runner conditions race at Kempton (1m 4f, good). ALTAMURA beat TIME ALLOWED (3lb worse off) 2l in 10-runner listed race over course and distance (good) with RUSSIAN SNOWS (8lb worse off) 2½l 3rd. PAPERING head and short-neck promoted 2nd of 10 to My Emma in Prix Vermeille at Longchamp (1m 4f, good). PRIOLINA 4½l 3rd of 7 to Wall Street in group III Cumberland Lodge Stakes over course and distance (good to firm). TIME ALLOWED 1¾l 2nd of 6 to Eva Luna in group III [illegible] Park Hill Stakes at Doncaster (1m 6f 132yd, good) with RUSSIAN SNOWS 10l 4th.
Selection: ALTAMURA

3.35 WILLMOTT DIXON HANDICAP BBC1

(£18,238: 5f) (17 runners)

401	(17)	3-35616	ROYALE FIGURINE 14 (D,F,G,S) (C Pearman) M Fetherston-Godley 5-10-0	J Reid	93
402	(3)	144501	BOLSHOI 13 (B,CD,F,G) (Mrs D Brown) J Berry 4-9-7	Emma O'Gorman	93
403	(1)	116000	TO THE ROOF 13 (D,F,G) (Mrs P Harris) P Harris 4-9-3	G Hind	92
404	(9)	604122	SAMWAR 13 (BF,G) (Maygain Ltd) Miss G Kelleway 4-9-2	M J Kinane	94
405	(14)	200001	TADEO 7 (D,F,G,S) (J Good) M Johnston 3-8-12	M Roberts	95
406	(10)	0-00510	MUSICAL SEASON 21 (D,G,S) (P Savill) T Barron 4-8-11	K Darley	96
407	(2)	001331	PORTELET 10 (D,F,G) (Matthews Breeding and Racing) R Boss 4-8-9	J D Smith (3)	97
408	(8)	522302	WHITE EMIR 23 (B,D,F,S) (The Three Bees Racing) B Meehan 3-8-7	O Peslier	94
409	(5)	544430	LAGO DI VARANO 21 (V,D,F,G,S) (The PBT Group) R Whitaker 4-8-7	Pat Eddery	95
410	(4)	533500	SIR JOEY 21 (D,F,G,S) (Mrs R Sims) P Murphy 7-8-7	S Drowne	94
411	(6)	000621	SWYNFORD DREAM 9 (D,F,G) (Guardian Holdings) J Bottomley 3-8-6	L Dettori	94
412	(7)	400600	LADY SHERIFF 31 (D,F,G) (E Mangan) R Hollinshead 5-8-2	F Lynch (3)	96
413	(12)	126006	SHANGHAI GIRL 8 (V,F) (Wafic Said) D Loder 3-8-1	D R McCabe	94
414	(13)	000022	GO HEVER GOLF 8 (D,F,G) (Hever Racing Club I) T Naughton 4-7-12	S Sanders	◉
415	(16)	312310	PALACEGATE TOUCH 10 (B,D,F,G,S) (Palacegate Corporation Ltd) J Berry 6-7-11	N Carlisle	96
416	(15)	100030	ROYAL DOME 3 (D,F,G) (G Jones) M Wane 4-7-10	R Ffrench (7)	97
417	(11)	022241	SCISSOR RIDGE 17 (D,F,G) (D Smith) J Bridger 4-7-10	R Mullen (7)	82

Long handicap: Royal Dome 7-8, Scissor Ridge 6-10

BETTING: 6-1 Samwar, 13-2 Bolshoi, 7-1 Royale Figurine, 8-1 Tadeo, Portelet, 9-1 Go Hever Golf, 10-1 Swynford Dream, 12-1 others.

1995: COASTAL BLUFF 3-8-7 K Darley (9-1 fav) T Barron 24 ran

FORM FOCUS

ROYALE FIGURINE beat Tropical Dance 4l in 5-runner conditions race at Newmarket (6f, good to firm). BOLSHOI beat SAMWAR (5lb better off) 1½l in 17-runner handicap over course and distance (good) with TO THE ROOF (12lb better off) 6l 12th. TADEO beat Ancelliman 2½l in 7-runner conditions race at Haydock (5f, soft). PORTELET beat Insider Trader ½l in 13-runner handicap at Newcastle (5f, good to firm) with PALACEGATE TOUCH (6lb better off) 7l 9th. WHITE EMIR 1¼l 2nd of 7 to Sergeyev in handicap at Lingfield (6f, firm). GO HEVER GOLF ½l 2nd of 16 to Bana Thong in claimer at Saint-Cloud (4f, soft).
Selection: ROYALE FIGURINE

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Rnrs	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
Saeed bin Suroor	9	35	25.7	M J Kinane	25	144	17.4
Lady Herries	8	42	19.0	L Dettori	35	232	15.1
J Dunlop	26	143	18.2	T Quinn	27	199	13.6
A Stewart	5	28	17.9	Pat Eddery	35	262	13.4
J Gosden	23	135	17.0	W R Swinburn	22	187	11.8

3.45 CROWTHER HOMES HANDICAP C4

(£10,800: 1m 205yd) (27 runners)

1	(23)	003510	SEVENTEENS LUCKY 13 (CD,F,G) (D Cameron) B Jones 4-10-0	M Wigham	96
2	(22)	600011	MASTER BEVELED 4 (CD,F,G,S) (Mrs E Williams) P Evans 6-9-13 (4ex)	J F Egan	92
3	(17)	213320	TROJAN RISK 21 (D,F) (J McCarthy) G Lewis 3-9-12	R Hughes	94
4	(9)	112166	DARLING CLOVER 13 (CD,F,G) (P Bingham) R Bastiman 4-9-10	H Bastiman (5)	98
5	(15)	21-6156	SHINING EXAMPLE 82 (D,BF,F) (D Ahier) P Makin 4-9-10	J Fortune	89
6	(19)	523445	CASHMERE LADY 21 (G) (Mrs S Howe) J Eyre 4-9-8	R Lappin	95
7	(18)	624511	LADY OF LEISURE 16 (F) (Mrs A Sanders) Mrs J Cecil 4-9-8	G Bardwell	98
8	(6)	602310	PRIDE OF PENDLE 13 (CD,F,G,S) (Mrs L Miller) D Nicholls 7-9-7	Alex Greaves	95
9	(21)	211336	TALATHATH 13 (V,F,G) (Mrs C Rawson) C Dwyer 4-9-7	K Fallon	93
10	(26)	400002	DREAMS END 2 (G,S) (T Price) P Bowen 8-9-6	R Cochrane	◉
11	(11)	021043	KING CURAN 13 (B,F,G,S) (H O'Donnell) D Haydn Jones 5-9-4	L Charnock	93
12	(14)	580106	GLORIANA 6 (D,F,S) (D Blacker) Lady Herries 4-9-2	M Hills	95
13	(7)	3/0040-	TIME LEADER 157J (Big Time Boys) R Dickin 4-9-1	J Carroll	91
14	(5)	006060	ELITE HOPE 15 (G) (Elite Racing) N Tinkler 4-9-1	Aimee Cook (5)	92
15	(24)	015132	IMPULSIVE AIR 28 (F,G) (T Scothern) E Weymes 4-9-1	J Quinn	96
16	(8)	434013	HARVEY WHITE 11 (F,G) (H White) J Pearce 4-9-0	M Baird (5)	95
17	(12)	300-134	SHAFFISHAYES 137 (F,G) (P Davidson-Brown) Mrs M Reveley 4-9-0	D McKeown	90
18	(13)	000000	RAMBO WALTZER 15 (F,G,S) (Keystone Pine) D Nicholls 4-8-11	Jo Hunnam (7)	93
19	(25)	0/500/0-	RAFTERS 350J (M Carver) J Bradley 7-8-3	T Sprake	–
20	(16)	0/365	GLEN GARNOCK 19 (R Aird) D Nicholls 4-8-3	G Duffield	93
21	(4)	01346-0	OUR MAIN MAN 178 (F) (C Cooke) R Whitaker 6-8-1	F Norton	91
22	(20)	601P00	BROUGHTON'S PRIDE 35 (F) (Mrs J Morris) J Eyre 5-7-12	T Williams	85
23	(27)	000145	LAPU-LAPU 35 (F) (D French) M Camacho 3-7-12	L Charnock	97
24	(10)	153150	GOLD DESIRE 2 (C,D,BF,F,G,S) (Northgate Lodge) M Brittain 6-7-12	N Varley (3)	95
25	(3)	025541	CUBAN REEF 24 (F,G) (K West) W Musson 4-7-11	M Henry (3)	94
26	(2)	150533	FOIST 24 (B,G) (D Spencer) M W Easterby 4-7-10	N Kennedy	97
27	(1)	145000	HABETA 15 (F,G) (R Bickerson) J Watts 10-7-10	D Wright (3)	95

Long handicap: Habeta 7-9.

BETTING: 6-1 Master Beveled, 7-1 Lady Of Leisure, 10-1 Pride Of Pendle, 12-1 Impulsive Air, Shining Example, 14-1 others.

1995: SEVENTEENS LUCKY 3-8-10 M Wigham (14-1) B Jones 25 ran

FORM FOCUS

SEVENTEENS LUCKY beat Royal Ceilidh ½l in 23-runner handicap here (1m, good). MASTER BEVELED beat Rasid neck in 14-runner rating related stakes at Warwick (1m, good to firm). TROJAN RISK 3½l 2nd of 11 to Oops Pettie in rating related stakes at Doncaster (1m 2f 60yd, good). LADY OF LEISURE beat No Cliches ½l in 8-runner rating related stakes at Pontefract (1m 2f, good to firm). PRIDE OF PENDLE beat Hawksley Hill ¾l in 18-runner handicap at Ayr (1m, good to firm). IMPULSIVE AIR neck 2nd of 25 to Gladys Althorpe in handicap at Doncaster (1m, good to firm) with PRIDE OF PENDLE (2lb worse off) head 3rd. HARVEY WHITE 3½l 3rd of 14 to Step Aloft in apprentice handicap at Newmarket (1m 2f, good). FOIST head and short-head 3rd of 19 to Thatched in handicap at Beverley (1m 100yd, good to firm).
Selection: PRIDE OF PENDLE

4.15 CORAL SPRINT TROPHY HANDICAP C4

(£17,610: 6f) (23 runners)

1	(10)	104420	CYRANO'S LAD 31 (CD,BF,F,G) (M Foulger) C Dwyer 7-10-0	Jo Hunnam (7)	98
2	(19)	221234	DOUBLE SPLENDOUR 21 (CD,F,G,S) (Yorkshire RC) P Felgate 6-9-10	W Ryan	98
3	(20)	024000	DOUBLE BLUE 38 (V,D,F,G,S) (R Huggins) M Johnston 7-9-9	J Weaver	90
4	(22)	130040	TEDBURROW 21 (D,F,G) (P Davies) Mrs A Naughton 4-9-4	J Carroll	97
5	(16)	560616	SEIGNEURIAL 8 (D,F,G) (PBT Group) G Harwood 4-9-4	A Clark	94
6	(1)	660300	PORTEND 28 (B,D,G,S) (D Bowring) S Bowring 4-9-2	S D Williams	97
7	(12)	600506	ASTRAC 13 (CD,F,G,S) (C Titcomb) Miss G Kelleway 5-9-2	M Hills	93
8	(17)	0-44000	STYLISH WAYS 38 (D,G,S) (Ian Hall Racing) Miss S Hall 4-9-1	J F Egan	90
9	(9)	500001	GARNOCK VALLEY 6 (B,D,F,G,S) (R Aird) J Berry 6-9-0	G Carter	98
10	(11)	052122	MR BERGERAC 21 (D,F,G,S) (P John) B Palling 5-9-0	T Sprake	98
11	(7)	231150	BOLLIN JOANNE 21 (D,F) (Lady Westbrook) T Easterby 3-9-0	G Parkin (5)	97
12	(16)	253100	DON'T CARE 6 (B,D,G) (C McLaren) Miss L Perratt 5-8-13	M Birch	–
13	(8)	403002	BAJAN ROSE 8 (D,F,G,S) (C McKenna) M Blanshard 4-8-13	R Cochrane	96
14	(15)	3115	PEARL D'AZUR 42 (D,BF,F,G) (Sheikh Mohammed) D Loder 3-8-13	R Hughes	94
15	(14)	000005	TAKADOU 7 (F,G,S) (Exors of F Tyldesley) Miss L Siddall 5-8-9	D Harrison	98
16	(23)	000003	SAINT EXPRESS 10 (C,D,F,G) (D Hall) Mrs M Reveley 6-8-8	G Lee (5)	97
17	(2)	321000	BENZOE 6 (CD,BF,F,S) (T Fawcett) Mrs J Ramsden 6-8-8	K Fallon	96
18	(4)	610200	ANTONIAS MELODY 6 (B,D,S) (Mrs B Georgiou) S Bowring 3-8-7	C Teague (3)	94
19	(21)	612300	PALO BLANCO 21 (D,F,G) (J Brown) T Barron 5-8-6	J Fortune	92
20	(5)	001153	LORD OLIVIER 23 (D,F,G) (Miss V Jarvis) W Jarvis 6-8-5	A McGlone	97
21	(6)	000545	CARICATURE 16 (B,D,G) (White Bear) G Lewis 3-8-5	M Henry (3)	97
22	(13)	640511	CRETAN GIFT 21 (B,D,F,G) (I Clarke) N Littmoden 5-8-2	G Duffield	◉
23	(3)	140003	BAYIN 18 (D,F,G,S) (T Barker) M Usher 7-7-13	R Street	98

BETTING: 8-1 Mr Bergerac, 10-1 Pearl D'Azur, Bollin Joanne, 12-1 Cretan Gift, 14-1 Double Splendour, 14-1 Bajan Rose, Garnock Valley, 16-1 others.

1995: DOUBLE BOUNCE 5-8-9 L Dettori (3-1) P Makin 23 ran

FORM FOCUS

CYRANO'S LAD ½l 2nd of 15 to Options Open in handicap over course and distance (good) with DOUBLE SPLENDOUR (2lb better off) neck 3rd. SEIGNEURIAL beat White Emir 1½l in 7-runner handicap at Lingfield (6f, firm). ASTRAC 5¾l 6th of 17 to Bolshoi in handicap at Ascot (5f, good). GARNOCK VALLEY beat Montserrat 5l in 22-runner handicap at Haydock (6f, soft). MR BERGERAC 1½l 2nd of 28 to Coastal Bluff in Ladbroke (Ayr) Gold Cup (6f, good to firm) with DOUBLE SPLENDOUR (2lb better off) neck and 1½l 4th. BAJAN ROSE neck 2nd of 9 to Prends Ca in handicap at Newmarket (6f, good to firm). PEARL D'AZUR beat MR BERGERAC (2lb worse off) head in 6-runner handicap at Newmarket (6f, good to firm). CRETAN GIFT beat Thwaab short-head in 28-runner handicap at Ayr (6f, good to firm).
Selection: CYRANO'S LAD

GUIDE TO OUR RACECARD

103 (12) 0-0432 GOOD TIMES 74 (CD,BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 9-10-0 .. B West (4) 88

Racecard number. Draw in brackets. Six-figure form (F — fell. P — pulled up. U — unseated rider. B — brought down. S — slipped up. R — refused. D — disqualified). Horse's name. Days since last outing; J if jumps, F if flat. (B — blinkers. V — visor. H — hood. E — Eyeshield. C — course winner. D — distance winner. CD — course and distance winner. BF — beaten favourite in latest race). Going on which horse has won (F — firm, good to firm, hard. G — good. S — soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. The Times Private Handicapper's rating.

4.10 MITRE RATED HANDICAP (£12,242: 1m 2f) (8 runners)

501	(1)	615-002	MEDAILLE MILITAIRE 149 (C,D,F) (J Hartnett) J Dunlop 4-9-7	M J Kinane	90
502	(6)	02-0551	WILCUMA 91 (D,F,G,S) (T Warner) P Makin 5-9-0	Pat Eddery	91
503	(8)	302030	HOH EXPRESS 29 (G) (D Allport) I Balding 4-8-13	T Quinn	93
504	(2)	111040	NINIA 14 (D,F,G) (Mrs D Schreiber) M Johnston 4-8-12	B Doyle	93
505	(3)	013520	DAUNT 13 (F,G) (Lord Hartington) J Gosden 4-8-12	L Dettori	93
506	(4)	131245-	ALKATEB 335 (F) (Miss L Vollaro) Miss G Kelleway 4-8-8	J Reid	90
507	(7)	15-0450	LOMBERTO 35 (B,S) (Saleh Al Homeizi) R Hannon 3-8-4	Dane O'Neill	91
508	(5)	43321-5	PROPER BLUE 21 (F) (M Legg) T Mills 3-8-2	S Sanders	◉

BETTING: 3-1 Wilcuma, 7-2 Medaille Militaire, 5-1 Daunt, 6-1 Ninia, 13-2 Hoh Express, 8-1 Alkateb, 9-1 others.

1995: QUANDARY 4-8-7 Pat Eddery (9-2 fav) H Cecil 14 ran

4.40 HYPERION CONDITIONS STAKES

(2-Y-O: £7,178: 7f) (6 runners)

601	(2)	221043	GRANNY'S PET 11 (G) (Mrs D Arbib) P Cole 9-1	T Quinn	94
602	(4)	41140	ANDREYEV 9 (F,S) (J Palmer-Brown) R Hannon 8-13	M J Kinane	◉
603	(3)	1	DACOIT 10 (D,S) (Sheikh Mohammed) M Stoute 8-11	W R Swinburn	80
604	(6)	065	PADAUK 17 (G Steinberg) M Haynes 8-11	J Reid	58
605	(5)	221	SHII-TAKE 31 (D,F) (C Bain) R Akehurst 8-11	L Dettori	89
606	(1)	5	URSA MAJOR 13 (R Blake) P Kelleway 8-11	M Roberts	81

BETTING: 2-1 Dacoit, 5-2 Granny's Pet, 11-4 Andreyev, 5-1 Shii-Take, 8-1 Ursa Major, 33-1 Padauk.

1995: BRANDON MAGIC 8-13 W R Swinburn (10-11 fav) I Balding 4 ran

5.15 DUKE OF EDINBURGH HANDICAP

(£9,456: 1m str) (25 runners)

1	(5)	00-0000	NIGHT DANCE 144 (CD,F,G,S) (G Wright) G Lewis 4-10-0	A Whelan (3)	93
2	(11)	3/10-500	TREMPLIN 31 (S) (M Tabor) N Callaghan 4-9-12	–	91
3	(25)	462620-	THAT OLD FEELING 280J (D,F) (Mrs P Sherwood) J White 4-9-11	B Doyle	90
4	(19)	105125	NIGHT WINK 18 (D,F,G) (Mrs D Benjamin) G L Moore 4-9-10	S Whitworth	90
5	(14)	140603	WAKEEL 58 (D,G,S) (Mrs J Churston) S Dow 4-9-8	J Reid	90
6	(8)	52-13	MEDIEVAL LADY 112 (F) (Summertree Stud) I Balding 3-9-8	Martin Dwyer (5)	91
7	(2)	21350	CONSORT 14 (F) (K Abdulla) G Harwood 3-9-7	W R Swinburn	94
8	(12)	300111	KOATHARY 18 (D,F,S) (E Gadsden) L Cottrell 5-9-5	K Darley	93
9	(24)	244310	ADMIRALS FLAME 13 (D,F,S) (Hintlesham Racing) C Wall 5-9-4	P Clarke (7)	95
10	(1)	141006	MAPLE BAY 15 (D,G,S) (R Matthews) A Bailey 7-9-4	G Faulkner (5)	94
11	(15)	01	THREADNEEDLE 22 (D,F) (The Queen) Lord Huntingdon 3-9-3	L Dettori	90
12	(4)	100600	ALHAWA 43 (B,F,G) (H Al Maktoum) C Benstead 3-9-2	R Hills	89
13	(23)	250053	DANEGOLD 14 (V,D,F,G,S) (The Dream Team) M Channon 4-9-1	R Perham	94
14	(5)	2-00603	ZAJKO 13 (D,F) (Sir Roger G Gibbs) Lady Herries 6-9-0	F Lynch (3)	95
15	(7)	410521	HIGH PREMIUM 15 (D,F,G) (J Parsons) R Fahey 8-8-12	A Culhane	96
16	(22)	204600	TOUJOURS RIVIERA 24 (CD,F,G) (J Furlong) J Pearce 6-8-11	O Peslier	92
17	(18)	010001	ARTFUL DANE 21 (V,D,F) (S Lansdown Racing) M Heaton-Ellis 4-8-10	S Drowne	92
18	(20)	501053	BLUE FLYER 23 (D,F,G) (B Scott) R Ingram 3-8-10	D R McCabe	93
19	(13)	600000	COMANCHE COMPANION 49 (D,F,G,S) (Never Club I) T Naughton 6-8-9	Pat Eddery	92
20	(9)	310126	BALANCE OF POWER 18 (D,F,G) (J Falvey) R Akehurst 4-8-9	S Sanders	94
21	(10)	54100	A CHEF TOO FAR 95 (S) (Hon Mervyn Greenway) R Rowe 3-8-8	R Havlin (3)	◉
22	(17)	600203	APACHE LEN 16 (B) (R Taiano) R Hannon 3-8-6	Dane O'Neill	97
23	(6)	043502	FIONN DE COOL 10 (D,F) (R Kilby) R Akehurst 5-8-6	T Quinn	95
24	(21)	4-0540	ALSAHIB 6 (Mrs S Livesey) W Muir 3-8-2	M Fenton	65
25	(16)	660010	SUPERIOR FORCE 18 (D,F,G) (Copyforce Ltd) Miss B Sanders 3-7-12	N Adams	95

BETTING: 6-1 Threadneedle, 7-1 Medieval Lady, 8-1 Artful Dane, Zajko, 9-1 Fionn De Cool, 10-1 Koathary, 12-1 High Premium, 14-1 others.

1995: NIGHT DANCE 3-9-9 A Whelan (9-1) G Lewis 22 ran

4.45 ROYAL BRITISH LEGION INSURANCE SERVICES HANDICAP C4

(£11,034: 6f 214yd) (27 runners)

1	(22)	111-302	WARMING TRENDS 6 (D,G,S) (Hesmonds Stud) M Prescott 3-10-1	G Duffield	96
2	(9)	435324	JO MELL 6 (D,G) (C Newton) T Easterby 3-9-11	M Birch	93
3	(4)	523051	NUNSHARPA 14 (D,G) (T Holland-Martin) J Fanshawe 3-9-10	N Varley (3)	90
4	(1)	R60065	SAILORMAITE 6 (B,D,G,S) (S Bowring) S Bowring 5-9-7	D McKeown	98
5	(20)	122402	KESTON POND 10 (CD,F) (Mrs A Mallinson) Mrs V Aconley 6-9-7	D Griffiths (5)	92
6	(18)	040315	RAKIS 15 (D,F,G,S) (P Shorrock) Mrs L Stubbs 6-9-7	J F Egan	94
7	(12)	350040	KNOBBLEENEEZE 7 (V,D,F,G,S) (A Andrews) M Channon 6-9-6	R Hughes	91
8	(7)	130004	BARREL OF HOPE 6 (B,D,F,G,S) (P Watson) J Eyre 4-9-5	R Lappin	90
9	(24)	10-0500	SHARP PROSPECT 22 (F,S) (Future Prospectors) V Soane 6-9-4	R Cochrane	92
10	(8)	203140	PERSIAN FAYRE 21 (D,F,G) (M Grubb) J Berry 4-9-4	K Fallon	94
11	(19)	5100	WITH CARE 37 (D,F) (J Greetham) W Jarvis 3-9-3	J Weaver	90
12	(2)	3-5201	ROYAL JADE 14 (D,F) (D Deer) B Hills 3-9-2	M Hills	93
13	(25)	543101	QUILLING 15 (D,F) (A Watson) M Dods 4-9-1	J Fortune	93
14	(10)	3-30400	PHARMACY 21 (F) (Lady Kaplan) J Watts 3-8-12	W Ryan	97
15	(21)	264413	DUELLO 7 (D,F,S) (H Promoboro) M Blanshard 5-8-12	J Quinn	95
16	(6)	031100	LEGAL ISSUE 37 (D,F,G,S) (B Valentine) W Haigh 4-8-11	P McCabe (3)	90
17	(14)	163360	SOMERTON BOY 28 (D,F,G) (Mrs J MacPherson) P Calver 6-8-11	J Carroll	93
18	(15)	450000	FAME AGAIN 7 (D,G,S) (M Charlton) Mrs J Ramsden 4-8-10	J Fanning	96
19	(23)	352125	DUMMER GOLF TIME 24 (V,D,BF,F,G) (Coriolan) Lord Huntingdon 3-8-9	D Harrison	90
20	(16)	660000	LE SPORT 35 (D,G) (Simple Technology) D Nicholls 3-8-9	D Wright (3)	89
21	(13)	515500	HALMANERROR 14 (CD,F,G,S) (Mrs J Smith) Mrs J Ramsden 6-8-9	O Urbina	◉
22	(17)	012530	PINE RIDGE LAD 37 (D,F,G) (Whitestonecliffe Racing) J Eyre 6-8-8	T Williams	91
23	(5)	440162	SUPERPRIDE 21 (D,G,S) (Mrs M Ward) Mrs M Reveley 4-8-6	A Clark	96
24	(26)	60503	SOVEREIGNS COURT 10 (Whiteways Racing) D Chappell 3-8-5	T Sprake	94
25	(3)	435000	BEST OF ALL 7 (B,F,S) (R Aird) J Berry 4-8-3	G Carter	94
26	(27)	0560U0	MISTER WESTSOUND 14 (B,F) (D Sutherland) Miss L Perratt 4-8-3	A McGlone	98
27	(11)	340010	OCHOS RIOS 30 (CD,F,G,S) (Mrs H Burn) B Rothwell 5-8-2	M Baird (5)	95

BETTING: 8-1 Quilling, 10-1 Royal Jade, 12-1 Superpride, Dummer Golf Time, Nunsharpa, Ochos Rios, 14-1 Keston Pond, Warming Trends, 16-1 others.

1995: COMANCHE COMPANION 5-9-3 J D Smith (15-2) T Naughton 23 ran

FORM FOCUS

WARMING TRENDS 1¼l 2nd of 12 to Rebel County in handicap at Haydock (1m, soft) with JO MELL (3lb better off) 3½l 3rd. NUNSHARPA beat Oberon's Dart 3l in 15-runner handicap at Haydock (7f, good). KESTON POND neck 2nd of 4 to Divine Quest in rating related stakes at Newcastle (7f, good to firm). RAKIS 3¾l 5th of 17 to High Premium in handicap at Haydock (1m, good). ROYAL JADE beat Hannalou 1¼l in 9-runner maiden at Redcar (7f, firm). QUILLING beat Glowing Jade neck in 10-runner handicap at Redcar (7f, firm). DUELLO 2¾l 3rd of 16 to Don't Get Caught in handicap at Newmarket (7f, good to firm) with KNOBBLEENEEZE (1lb better off) 5¾l 12th. DRUMMER GOLF TIME 4¼l 5th of 11 to Superior Force in handicap at Sandown (1m, good to firm).
Selection: WARMING TRENDS

5.15 SAMPLERITE LIMITED STAKES

(£6,212: 6f) (13 runners)

1	(4)	320155	FRIENDLY BRAVE 6 (D,F,G,S) (Gmd Racing) Miss G Kelleway 6-9-11	R Hughes	80
2	(2)	540300	DAAWE 3 (CD,F,G,S) (Mrs A Mallinson) Mrs V Aconley 5-9-8	M Deering	82
3	(7)	231021	BOWLERS BOY 16 (D,F) (Bowlers Racing) J Quinn 3-9-4	G Parkin (5)	87
4	(10)	213220	FARAWAY LASS 22 (D,F) (J Rose) Lord Huntingdon 3-9-1	D Harrison	93
5	(13)	110605	NAISSANT 12 (D,G,S) (W Graham) R McKellar 3-9-1	K Sked (7)	90
6	(12)	0/0013-0	BEN GUNN 37 (D,F,S) (M White) P Walwyn 4-8-13	J Carroll	85
7	(6)	004055	CASTLEREA LAD 14 (D,BF,F) (Mrs T Graham) R Hollinshead 7-8-13	D Griffiths (5)	91
8	(3)	004632	FRENCH GRIT 14 (D,BF,F) (M Wilson) M Dods 4-8-13	A Clark	93
9	(8)	400260	THE SCYTHIAN 21 (D,F) (D Blake) B Jones 4-8-13	M Wigham	90
10	(1)	31-0000	AIR WING 3 (G) (P Betts) M Tompkins 3-8-12	R Cochrane	79
11	(9)	404000	BLESSINGINDISGUISE 14 (G) (A Black) M W Easterby 3-8-12	J Quinn	91
12	(11)	021-010	FAITH ALONE 109 (D,BF,F,G) (Mrs R Neave) C Wall 3-8-12	G Duffield	85
13	(5)	260060	MISS WATERLINE 7 (D,S) (M Lawrence) P Evans 3-8-9	J F Egan	◉

BETTING: 4-1 Bowlers Boy, 5-1 Naissant, 7-1 Friendly Brave, 8-1 Faraway Lass, Miss Waterline, 10-1 French Grit, 12-1 others.

1995: NO CORRESPONDING RACE

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS	Wins	Rnrs	%	JOCKEYS	Winners	Rides	%
B Jones	4	13	30.8	T Sprake	3	6	50.0
D Loder	11	37	29.7	M Wigham	4	9	44.4
D Morley	7	25	28.0	G Duffield	10	63	15.9
G Lewis	5	18	27.8	W Ryan	17	112	15.2
M Prescott	4	16	25.0	R Cochrane	14	138	10.1
E Weymes	5	23	21.7	Alex Greaves	3	30	10.0
J Gosden	26	121	21.5	M Hills	13	130	10.0
J Dunlop	19	102	18.6	J Fortune	5	50	10.0

Blinkered first time

ASCOT: 5.15 Alhawa. HEXHAM: 2.20 Boethius. YORK: 3.45 Foist. 4.15 Antonias Melody, Double Blue. 4.45 Best Of All.

هكذا من الأصل

RACING

Its A Snip has another cut at Pardubicka

Dunwoody: tough test

ITS A SNIP returns to Pardubice, in the Czech Republic, tomorrow for the £24,155 Velka Pardubicka Chase, which he won last year after finishing runner-up in 1994.

Fourth on his recent reappearance at Newton Abbot, Its A Snip was ridden by Charlie Mann on his two previous outings over the 31 fences of this daunting cross-country chase (4m 2½f). Richard Dunwoody takes over this time, but fellow British raider, Irish Stamp, will make sure he has no easy task.

Irish Stamp (Norman Williamson), trained by Ferdy Murphy, was second, beaten only three lengths, in the £32,830 Grand Steeplechase de Flandres at Waregem in August. The Belgium course has some similarities to Pardubice but that race was almost 1½ miles shorter than tomorrow's contest.

Sue Bramall, who is now based in Ireland, gives Veleda II (Ken Whelan) his first outing since leaving Yorkshire. This ten-year-old was a disappointing seventh in a handicap chase at Newcastle in early January, but had previously finished an encouraging third at Uttoxeter.

Scater, who has won at the course twice this year, is the best of the local runners in a maximum field of 26, which includes Vinny and Mirano, Its A Snip's closest pursuers last year.

Dai Williams runs Set The Fashion in the £10,870 Pivovar Pardubice St Leger (1m 6½f) at the Czech course today.

Revoque heads Criterium raid

THERE will be three British runners in the group one Grand Criterium at Longchamp tomorrow, with Peter Chapple-Hyam's 2,000 Guineas fancy, Revoque, leading the way.

John Reid's mount aims to maintain his unbeaten record in this one-mile contest, having already taken the group one Prix de la Salamandre last month.

The other British runners are the Geoff Lewis-trained Referendum (Pat Eddery), who was second in the National Stakes, and John Gosden's highly regarded Newbury winner, King Sound (Thierry Jarnet).

Ireland is represented by Charlie O'Brien's Navan winner Olympic Majesty (Olivier Peslier), while the home team comprises Aneysar, Majorien and Nombre Premier.

Two Bulgarian runners, Le Topolino and Wild Thyme, add spice to the contest.

John Gosden's St Leger winner, Shantou (Frankie Dettori), spearheads a strong British assault on the group one Gran Premio del Jockey Club E Coppa d'Oro in Milan tomorrow.

The mile-and-a-half contest has attracted a quality entry, with Paul Cole's seasoned campaigner Strategic Choice (Richard Quinn) and Michael Stoute's Sacrament (Walter Swinburn) among the eight-runner field.

RACING NEXT WEEK

MONDAY: Leicester (first race, 2.00). Newton Abbot (2.15)

TUESDAY: Leicester (2.00). Sedgefield (2.15)

WEDNESDAY: Exeter (2.10). **Haydock Park (2.30).** Wetherby (2.20).

THURSDAY: **Newmarket (C4, 1.30). Redcar (C4, 1.40).** Taunton (1.50).

FRIDAY: **Catterick Bridge (2.10).** Hereford (1.50). **Newmarket (C4, 1.30).**

SATURDAY: **Catterick Bridge (2.05).** Kelso (2.00). Kempton Park (2.15). **Newmarket (C4, 1.45).** Stratford (2.25). **Wolverhampton (AW, 7.00).**

Flat meetings in bold

WORCESTER

THUNDERER

2.25 Hamadryad. 2.55 Imperial Vintage. 3.25 Agdistis. 3.55 Philip's Woody. 4.30 Super Sharp. 5.00 La Menorquina.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM SIS

2.25 DUNCAN FEARNLEY AMATEUR RIDERS SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE
(£2,087: 2m) (14 runners)

1 1533 DENOMINATION 37 (D,F) M Pipe 4-11-10 .... A Farrant (5)
2 1-54 HAMADRYAD 14 (D,F) Miss V Ward 8-11-6 .. R Thornton (7)
3 1260 BURNT SIENNA 8 (V,F) J Moore 4-10-13 E James (7)
4 0/4- GLOWING PATH 430 (D,F,S) R Hodges 6-10-12 C Bonner (3)
5 -656 REEFA'S MILL 37 J Neville 4-10-12 M Rimell (3)
6 3656 NIGHT TIME 9 (CD,F) F Jordan 4-10-9 G Shenkin (7)
7 F050 JAVA SHRINE 9 (D,F) J Tuck 5-10-7 ... A Wintle (7)
8 0P0- DOC'S COAT 149 (CD,F,G,S) C Weedman 11-10-6 E Babington (7)
9 82F- FORCING TWO 169 (B) N Twiston-Davies 5-10-5 J Goldstein (7)
10 2-64 POCONO KNIGHT 30 C Jones 6-10-3 ... Miss B Sorall (7)
11 5023 GALLOPING GUNS 28 B Llewellyn 4-10-3 Miss E J Jones (7)
12 00-0 CATWALKER 28 H Webb 5-10-0 .... D McPhail (7)
13 0-05 TIBBS INN 2 A Barrow 7-10-0 .... R Widger (7)
14 /45 SCALP 'EM 31 P Pritchard 8-10-0 .... Dr P Pritchard (7)

7-2 Denomination, 9-2 Reefa's Mill, 5-1 Glowing Path, 6-1 Burnt Sienna, 7-1 Hamadryad, 8-1 Night Time, 10-1 Forcing Two, 12-1 others.

2.55 MEB POWERLINE NOVICES CHASE
(£2,945: 2m 7f) (4)

1 3-11 IMPERIAL VINTAGE 13 (D,F) Miss V Williams 6-11-12 A P McCoy
2 004- CAPO CASTANUM 225 Miss H Knight 7-10-12 . J Culloty
3 324F SHIKAREE 7 (B,F) M Pipe 5-10-9 ... C Maude
4 P-U3 GLENFINN PRINCESS 29 (S) Mrs M Jones 8-10-7 . D Byrne

6-4 Shikaree, 2-1 Imperial Vintage, 4-1 Capo Castanum, 9-2 Glenfinn Princess

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: Miss H Knight, 12 winners from 39 runners, 30.8%; M Pipe, 31 from 122, 25.4%; K Bailey, 22 from 97, 22.7%; R Hodges, 5 from 33, 15.2%; N Henderson, 6 from 43, 14.0%; N Twiston-Davies, 13 from 110, 11.8%.

JOCKEYS: N Mann, 7 winners from 27 rides, 25.9%; A P McCoy, 22 from 93, 23.7%; J Culloty, 5 from 24, 20.8%; D Bridgwater, 23 from 139, 16.5%; Mr J L Llewellyn, 3 from 20, 15.0%; D Morris, 5 from 36, 13.9%.

3.25 PERTEMPS JUVENILE NOVICES HURDLE
(£2,360: 2m) (12)

1 21F VERULAM 26 (BF,F) J Jenkins 11-5 .. G Bradley
2 CHIPALATA 58F I Donnelly 10-12 .. P McLoughlin
3 DESERT SCOUT 19F K McAuliffe 10-12 W Marston
4 INDIAN WOLF 26F B Llewellyn 10-12 I Lawrence
5 ROYAL THEN J Neville 10-12 ...... D Bridgwater
6 AGDISTIS 25F H Thomson Jones 10-7 L Harvey
7 42F AMBER RING 26 Miss K George 10-7 .. J R Kavanagh
8 P0 COPPER DIAMOND 35 (B) D Burchell 10-7 J Prior (7)
9 0 FLOOD'S FANCY 28 L Barratt 10-7 J Culloty
10 P OUR ADVENTURE 70 M Muggeridge 10-7 ... S Curran
11 524P SONG FOR JESS 9 F Jordan 10-7 S Wynne
12 P4 WATER MUSIC MELODY 6 T Greathead 10-7 Gary Lyons

9-4 Agdistis, 7-2 Verulam, 5-1 Amber Ring, 6-1 Desert Scout, 7-1 Royal Then, 10-1 Song For Jess, 12-1 others.

3.55 DOMESTIC APPLIANCES DISTRIBUTORS HANDICAP CHASE
(£4,923: 2m 4f 110yd) (4)

1 1-24 WISE APPROACH 14 (CD,F,G,S) K Bailey 9-11-10 Mr R Wakley (7)
2 223- PHILIP'S WOODY 147 (D,F,G,S) N Henderson 8-10-10 J R Kavanagh
3 P-32 REX TO THE RESCUE 10 (F,G) R Alner 9-10-0 . P Henley (3)
4 4234 CHANNEL PASTIME 63 (D,G) D Burchell 12-10-0 D J Burchell

5-4 Wise Approach, 5-2 Philip's Woody, 4-1 Rex To The Rescue, 5-1 Channel Pastime

4.30 APOLLO 2000 HANDICAP CHASE
(£2,805: 2m) (6)

1 3112 SUPER SHARP 22 (D,BF,F,G) H Oliver 8-11-10 Jacqui Oliver
2 U31- LODESTONE LAD 358 (G) R Dickin 6-11-7 J Culloty
3 23-3 NORTHERN OPTIMIST 13 (D,F,G) B Llewellyn 8-11-4 A P McCoy
4 14-F DAWN CHANCE 10 (D,F,G) R Hodges 10-11-1 T Dascombe (3)
5 0-22 THE YOKEL 9 B Baugh 10-10-9 . P Henley (5)
6 F3 RED MATCH 803 (CD,F) R Hodges 11-10-4 N Mann

9-4 Super Sharp, 4-1 Northern Optimist, 9-2 Lodestone Lad, The Yokel, 5-1 Dawn Chance, 8-1 Red Match

5.00 ASKO APPLIANCES HANDICAP HURDLE
(£3,673: 2m 4f) (5)

1 /21 ACROW LINE 4F (F,G,S) D Burchell 11-12-0 D J Burchell
2 230- TIM 133 (F) J Jenkins 6-11-8 ... G Bradley
3 -115 WOTTASHAMBLES 14 (CD,BF,F) L Montague Hall 5-11-5 D Morris
4 21-2 LA MENORQUINA 49 (BF,G) D Marks 6-10-11 . J A McCarthy
5 F5-3 FLEUR DE TAL 10 (C,F,G) W G M Turner 5-10-11 J Power (7)

6-4 Wottashambles, 3-1 Acrow Line, 4-1 Tim, 6-1 La Menorquina, Fleur De Tal

RESULTS FROM YESTERDAY'S THREE MEETINGS

Ascot

Going: good, good to soft in places

2.00 (1m 4f) 1, FAIRY KNIGHT (Mr C Bonner, 4-1 fav); 2, Country Lover (Mr A Balding, 12-1); 3, Namoodaj (Mr V Lukaniuk, 9-2); 4, Warm Spell (Mr K Goble, 14-1). ALSO RAN: 6 Newport Knight, 7 Rex Mundi (5th), 8 Arctic Bay, 9 Roufontaine, 14 Bajan, Montone, 33 Harding, Red Phantom, Sam Rockett (6th), 50 Desert Challenger, Golden Hadeer, Persian Conquest. 16 ran. 1¾l, 7l, 2½l, 3l, hd. R Hannon at East Everleigh. Tote: £4.70; £1.50, £2.40, £1.80, £3.00. DF: £30.20. Trio: £66.40. CSF: £50.12. Tricast: £212.18.

2.30 (6f) 1, DANCES WITH DREAMS (J Reid, 12-1); 2, Bintang Timor (T Quinn, 1-2 fav); 3, Nariskin (L Dettori, 13-2). ALSO RAN: 10 Musharak (4th), 12 Praeditus (6th), 16 Labeq, 20 Blushing Desert (5th). 7 ran. ¾l, ½l, 2½l, 1¾l, 1½l. P Chapple-Hyam at Manton. Tote: £6.20; £2.00, £1.30. DF: £3.80. CSF: £18.54. After a stewards' inquiry, result stood.

3.05 (1m) 1, FATEFULLY (L Dettori, 6-1); 2, Scarlet Plume (M Roberts, 20-1); 3, Parrot Jungle (T Sprake, 50-1). ALSO RAN: 2-1 fav Turning Wheel, 3 Abeyr (5th), 7 Red Carnival, 14 Prancing, 16 Tereshkova, 20 Awaamir (4th), Nagnagnag (6th), 25 Dawawin, Satin Bell. 12 ran. 1½l, nk, 2l, 1¾l, hd. Saeed bin Suroor at Newmarket. Tote: £6.00; £1.80, £6.00, £5.00. DF: £183.40. Trio: £901.10. CSF: £104.56.

3.40 (7f) 1, TEST THE WATER (Pat Eddery, 12-1); 2, Manikato (C Rutter, 10-1); 3, Merciless Cop (J Quinn, 4-1). ALSO RAN: 100-30 fav Blue Goblin (4th), 11-2 Oneknight With You, 12 Trading Aces (5th), 14 Grate Times, I Can't Remember, 16 Silca's My Key, 20 Farewell My Love (6th), Orontes, Papita, 50 Sparkling Edge. 13 ran. NR: Tinkerbell. 1¾l, nk, 2½l, 5l, nk. R Hannon at East Everleigh. Tote: £11.30; £2.60, £4.10, £2.10. DF: £181.20. Trio: £549.40. CSF: £113.65. Tricast: £536.34.

4.15 (2m 45yd) 1, FLOCHECK (M J Kinane, 9-1); 2, Sea Freedom (G Hind, 14-1); 3, Benfleet (R Price, 20-1); 4, Harbour Island (L Dettori, 7-1). ALSO RAN: 5-2 fav Northern Fleet (5th), 9-2 Izza, 16 Raffles Rooster, 20 Bob's Ploy (6th), Mr Browning, Pike Creek, 25 Eagle Canyon, Muse, 33 Sharaf, 50 High Summer, 100 Durshan, Mull House. 16 ran. 3½l, nk, 3l, 2½l, ¾l. J Dunlop at Arundel. Tote: £11.00; £2.30, £2.20, £4.00, £1.80. DF: £64.80. Trio: £242.10. CSF: £110.23. Tricast: £2,209.76.

4.45 (1m) 1, PRINCE BABAR (R Mullen, 3-1); 2, Russian Music (D Griffiths, 2-1 fav); 3, Kings Witness (G Faulkner, 5-1). ALSO RAN: 11-2 Marl (6th), 10 Rivers Magic, 12 Van Gurp (5th), 16 Show Faith, 50 Mimosa (4th), 100 Baba Au Rhum, Endaxi Sam, Fruit Town, Persian Dawn, Saltando, Western Country. 14 ran. 3½l, 1¾l, 4l, 5l, ½l. J Banks at Newmarket. Tote: £4.40; £1.60, £1.30, £1.40. DF: £3.10. Trio: £6.70. CSF: £9.04.

5.20 (1m 4f) 1, SHADOW LEADER (R Hughes, 12-1); 2, Polydamas (J Reid, 7-1 jt-fav); 3, Dance So Suite (T Quinn, 7-1 jt-fav). ALSO RAN: 7-1 jt-fav River Keen (5th), 8 Eden Heights, Fasil, Lofting, 10 Beyond Doubt, Subterfuge (4th), 14 Arctic Courier, 16 Be On The Side, Remel, 20 My Learned Friend, 33 More Than You Know, Otto E Mezzo (6th). 15 ran. 2l, nk, 1¼l, 7l, 1¾l. C Egerton at Chaddleworth. Tote: £17.10; £4.80, £2.90, £3.50. DF: £44.30. Trio: £287.00. CSF: £89.49. Tricast: £591.31.

Jackpot: not won (pool of £5,909.80 carried forward to Ascot today).

Placepot: £385.50.

Quadpot: £64.90.

Huntingdon

Going: good to firm

2.10 (2m 4f 110yd hdle) 1, Montel Express (C O'Dwyer, 5-2 fav); 2, The Lad (9-2); 3, Minor Key (12-1). 9 ran. Nk, 7l. K Bailey. Tote: £3.80; £1.50, £2.00, £4.60. DF: £12.50. Trio: £33.60. CSF: £14.75.

2.45 (2m 4f 110yd ch) 1, Jathib (D Byrne, 1-4 fav); 2, Icantelya (10-1); 3, Manor Mieo (6-1). 8 ran. 12l, dist. Mrs M Jones. Tote: £1.30; £1.10, £1.40, £1.10. DF: £2.80. CSF: £3.73.

3.15 (2m 5f 110yd hdle) 1, Born To Please (IRA Maguire, Evens fav); 2, Able Player (2-1); 3, Gone By (5-2). 3 ran. Nk, 22l. P Hobbs. Tote: £2.00. DF: £1.90. CSF: £3.17.

3.50 (2m 110yd ch) 1, Fine Harvest (D Bridgwater, 7-2); 2, Lowawatha (7-2); 3, Ramstar (3-1 jt-fav). Fierce 3-1 jt-fav. 5 ran. 2½l, ½l. J Spearing. Tote: £4.90; £2.30, £1.40. DF: £16.20. CSF: £14.98.

4.25 (2m 110yd hdle) 1, Star Market (A P McCoy, 11-4); 2, Wamdha (13-8 fav); 3, Cooley's Valve (5-2). 4 ran. 8l, 4l. J Spearing. Tote: £4.20. DF: £4.40. CSF: £7.61.

4.55 (3m ch) 1, Wise Approach (C O'Dwyer, 5-2 jt-fav); 2, Merlins Dream (5-2 jt-fav); 3, Change The Reign (3-1). Gipa Valu 5-2 jt-fav (f). 4 ran. Nk, dist. K Bailey. Tote: £3.90. DF: £2.30. CSF: £8.35.

5.30 (2m 110yd flat race) 1, Scoundrel (C O'Dwyer, 13-8 fav); 2, The Brewmaster (8-1); 3, Bombadil (25-1). 22 ran. 1½l, 4l. K Bailey. Tote: £2.50; £2.10, £1.50, £12.40. DF: £11.70. Trio: £192.90 (part won; pool of £62.51 carried forward to 3.45 at York today). CSF: £21.20.

Placepot: £341.00. Quadpot: £162.10.

Carlisle

Going: firm, good to firm in places

1.50 (2m 1f hdle) 1, Double Dash (D J Moffatt, 7-4); 2, Rel Frem (6-4 fav); 3, Lomond Lassie (20-1). 4 ran. 5l, dist. D Moffatt. Tote: £3.00. DF: £3.20. CSF: £4.83.

2.20 (2m 4f 110yd ch) 1, Show Your Hand (M Foster, 8-13 fav); 2, Calder's Grove (14-1); 3, Kilkulla (2-1). 4 ran. 2½l, 1¾l. L Lungo. Tote: £1.60. DF: £8.10. CSF: £6.80.

2.55 (2m 4f 110yd hdle) 1, Jonaem (K Johnson, 3-1); 2, Haughton Lad (9-2); 3, Merryhill Gold (7-2). Palace Of Gold 15-8 fav. 6 ran. 11, 12l. Mrs E Slack. Tote: £4.30; £1.80, £2.70. DF: £3.80. CSF: £15.60.

3.30 (2m ch) 1, Charming Gale (L Wyer, 11-4); 2, Political Tower (7-4 fav); 3, Beldine (2-1). 4 ran. 7l, 8l. Mrs S Bradburne. Tote: £4.20. DF: £5.00. CSF: £7.56.

4.00 (2m 1f hdle) 1, Well Appointed (G Lee, 3-1); 2, Nonios (11-4); 3, Latin Leader (5-1). Bolaney Girl 15-8 fav. 5 ran. NR: Steadfast Elite. ½l, 15l. B Mactaggart. Tote: £4.80; £1.80, £1.90. DF: £4.50. CSF: £10.99.

4.35 (3m ch) 1, Kushbaloo (B Storey, 6-4 fav); 2, Dark Oak (5-1); 3, Supposin (10-1). 5 ran. 3l, 1¾l. C Parker. Tote: £2.10; £1.10, £3.60. DF: £4.30. CSF: £8.72.

5.10 (2m 1f flat race) 1, Northern Fusilier (M Newton, 4-6 fav); 2, Look Sharpe (16-1); 3, Lindajane (4-1). 7 ran. 24l, 30l. J Jefferson. Tote: £1.50; £1.10, £4.00. DF: £14.80. CSF: £11.45.

Placepot: £181.20. Quadpot: £37.60.

☐ Classic Cliche's participation in the Melbourne Cup remained in doubt yesterday as the Godolphin team postponed any decision until next week.

BANGOR

THUNDERER

2.05 Vallingale. 2.35 Prince Skyburd. 3.05 Royal Circus. 3.40 Ali's Alibi. 4.20 The Last Fling. 4.50 Ela Man Howa. 5.20 Barlot.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM SIS

2.05 BBC RADIO MERSEYSIDE NOVICES HURDLE
(£2,710: 2m 4f) (10)

1 0- BOOT AGAIN 336 [illegible] T Eley
2 FASHION LEADER [illegible] M Richards
3 500- JILLS JOY 168 J Norton 5-10-12 W Fry
4 20- LE BARON 185 C Egerton 5-10-12 J Osborne
5 MIDNIGHT [illegible] R Marley
6 103- ELA MATA 179 (G) (S) [illegible] 4-10-11 J Railton
7 525- JUST LIKE DAD 187 M Todhunter 4-10-11 M Dwyer
8 -4R2 TIGH-NA-MARA 11 J Jefferson 5-10-7 E Callaghan (5)
9 30-5 VALLINGALE 14 Miss H Knight 5-10-7 J F Titley
10 SISTER GALE Mrs S Smith 4-10-6 R Guest

7-2 Le Baron, 4-1 Tigh-Na-Mara, 5-1 Vallingale, 6-1 Just Like Dad, 8-1 Fashion Leader, Ela Mata, Sister Gale, 10-1 others.

2.35 STADCO HANDICAP CHASE
(£3,818: 2m 1f 110yd) (5)

1 4-26 HOUGHTON 21 (F,G,S) W Jenks 10-11-12 Mr R Burton (7)
2 2U2- REGAL ROMPER 336 (CD,F,G) Mrs S Smith 8-11-3 R Guest
3 46-6 CRAFTY CHAPLAIN 13 (D,F,G,S) D McCain 10-10-12 D Walsh (3)
4 534- UNCLE BERT 138 (F,G,S) G McCourt 6-10-5 B Clifford
5 0-11 PRINCE SKYBURD 14 (F) Mrs P [illegible] 5-10-0 A Maguire

6-4 Prince Skyburd, 11-4 Regal Romper, 4-1 Uncle Bert, 6-1 Houghton, 8-1 Crafty Chaplain

3.05 NUMARK HANDICAP HURDLE
(£3,176: 2m 1f) (9)

1 2-4 TORDO 13 (B,D,F) C Mann 5-11-12 J Magee (3)
2 510- PHARARE 175 (C,D,F,S) R Woodhouse 6-11-5 M Dwyer
3 4-F- SAYMORE 217P (CD,F,G,S) W Clay 10-11-6 T Eley
4 145P ROYAL CIRCUS 25 (CD,F,G) P Hiatt 7-11-4 E Husband (3)
5 325- RIVER WYE 127 G Yardley 4-11-5 B Fenton
6 64P6 STAY WITH ME 21 (D,F) C Egerton 6-11-4 J Osborne
7 5-P2 WINTER ROSE 14 M Sheppard 5-11-0 B Powell
8 0U50 BATTY'S ISLAND 28 (CD,F,G,S) B Preece 7-10-7 G Hogan (3)
9 FP-P LUSTREMAN 28 (CD,F,G) J Peacock 9-10-0 R Bellamy

3-1 Pharare, 4-1 Tordo, 9-2 Stay With Me, 5-1 Winter Rose, 7-1 Saymore, 8-1 Royal Circus, 14-1 others.

3.40 WILLIS CORROON HANDICAP CHASE
(£4,507: 3m 110yd) (4)

1 1-1P FACTOR TEN 6 (F,G) Miss H Knight 8-12-0 J F Titley
2 32B- ALI'S ALIBI 149 (G,S) Mrs M Reveley 9-11-13 P Niven
3 231- MILLIES OWN 360 (F,G) P Hobbs 9-10-2 G Tormey (3)
4 -600 AUVILLAR 13 (V,F,G,S) J Parkes 8-10-3 C Llewellyn

4-5 Ali's Alibi, 7-2 Millies Own, 4-1 Factor Ten, 8-1 Auvillar

4.20 THELWALL MEMORIAL TROPHY NOVICES CHASE
(£3,664: 2m 4f 110yd) (8)

1 65P- GLAMANGLITZ 159 P Dalton 6-10-12 C Llewellyn
2 153- HIGHLAND WAY 140 (G) M Todhunter 8-10-12 M Dwyer
3 0 IBN SINA 28 W Clay 9-10-12 T Eley
4 0 NARLOVAC 10 (B) [illegible] 10-10-12 A Maguire
5 150- THE LAST FLING 214 (F,G) Mrs S Smith 6-10-12 R Guest
6 46-3 MR CONDUCTOR 28 (G) R Alner 5-10-10 M A Fitzgerald
7 2/0- BRIDEPARK ROSE 226 (S) G McCourt 9-10-7 B Clifford
8 4-0 MISTROY 57F (F) Miss M Milligan 6-10-7 A S Smith

6-4 The Last Fling, 11-4 Highland Way, 4-1 Mr Conductor, 12-1 Glamanglitz, 14-1 Narlovac, Bridepark Rose, 16-1 others.

4.50 COCK BANK NOVICES HURDLE
(£2,678: 2m 1f) (13)

1 -21F ANABRANCH 9 (BF,G) J Jefferson 5-11-0 E Callaghan (5)
2 00-2 ELA MAN HOWA 7 A Bailey 5-10-12 T Kent
3 NUNSON R Dickin 7-10-12 R Bellamy
4 625- BEAU MATELOT 166F Miss M Milligan 4-10-11 A S Smith
5 636- BIYA 138 D McCain 4-10-11 D Walsh (3)
6 CONTRAFIRE 47F Mrs A Swinbank 4-10-11 J Supple
7 GALAFRON 436F W Clay 4-10-11 T Eley
8 KIN AT THE TOP 33F J Norton 4-10-11 W Fry
9 NAKED FEELINGS M Todhunter 4-10-11 M Dwyer
10 STUDIO THIRTY 10F C Smith 4-10-11 P Niven
11 YOUNG BENSON 7F T Wall 4-10-11 R Massey (3)
12 06F- SETHS WISH 302 G Price 7-10-7 B Fenton
13 0- CAHERASS COURT 93F B Preece 5-10-7 G Hogan (3)

9-4 Anabranch, 7-2 Ela Man Howa, 5-1 Contrafire, 6-1 Young Benson, 8-1 Beau Matelot, 10-1 Naked Feelings, 12-1 others.

5.20 BANGOR MARES ONLY STANDARD OPEN NATIONAL HUNT FLAT RACE
(£1,679: 2m 1f) (18)

1 25-1 NISHAMIRA 16 (G) T Barron 4-11-10 M Dwyer
2 PF1- AFRICAN BRIDE 168P (F,G,S) D Grace 6-11-4 Miss P Jones
3 FF- BARONBURN 196P S Brookshaw 6-11-4 Mr R Burton (7)
4 CARLINGFORD GALE T George 5-11-4 M A Fitzgerald
5 CASPIAN DAWN Mrs S Smith 5-11-4 Mr P Murray (7)
6 06- GREY DANTE 147 S Brookshaw 5-11-4 Miss S Beddoes (7)
7 04- HUTCEL LOCH 222 R Woodhouse 5-11-4 A S Smith
8 3 NENAGH GUNNER 112 J Curran 6-11-4 L Wyer
9 BARLOT J Moore 4-11-3 T Eley
10 05- BRIDEN 187 J Jefferson 4-11-3 E Callaghan (5)
11 42- DISTANT HILLS 187 J Dodds 4-11-3 R Guest
12 3 GABRIELLE GERARD 45 Mrs A Naughton 4-11-3 R Wilkinson (7)
13 5 HALAM BELL 45 W G M Turner 4-11-3 P Holley
14 5 LADY FOLEY 22 C Mann 4-11-3 D Kiernan (7)
15 2- LADY REBECCA 159 Miss V Williams 4-11-3 A Maguire
16 LIPPY LOUISE Mrs M Reveley 4-11-3 P Niven
17 B0 MISS NONNIE 16 Miss L Siddall 4-11-3 D Leahy
18 NIGHT ESCAPADE C Weedon 4-11-3 M Richards

7-4 Nishamira, 5-1 Lady Rebecca, 6-1 Lippy Louise, 7-1 Nenagh Gunner, 8-1 Caspian Dawn, 10-1 Gabrielle Gerard, 12-1 Hutcel Loch, 16-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: J Jefferson, 3 winners from 9 runners, 33.3%; C Mann, 4 from 14, 28.6%; P Hobbs, 4 from 16, 25.0%; R Dickin, 4 from 18, 22.2%; J Mackie, 9 from 46, 19.6%; J Peacock, 3 from 16, 18.8%; Miss H Knight, 3 from 23, 13.0%.

JOCKEYS: A Maguire, 14 winners from 70 rides, 20.0%; C Llewellyn, 8 from 42, 19.0%; M Dwyer, 5 from 32, 15.6%; R Guest, 4 from 27, 14.8%; J Osborne, 4 from 33, 12.1%; J Railton, 5 from 42, 11.9%.

HEXHAM

THUNDERER

2.20 Reve De Valse. 2.50 Hobbs Choice. 3.20 Scrabo View. 3.50 Canton Venture. 4.25 Rocket Run. 4.55 Ballindoo.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM SIS

2.20 CAPITAL SHOPPING CENTRES NOVICES HANDICAP CHASE
(£2,491: 2m 110yd) (6 runners)

1 4123 REVE DE VALSE 17 (F,G,S) R Johnson 9-11-12 ... K Johnson
2 /24- MR REINER 340 (F,G,S) J Wade 8-11-1 .... K Jones
3 PR03 BOETHIUS 21 (B) M Barnes 7-11-0 .... P Waggott
4 -345 DEAR EMILY 85 J Swiers 8-10-13 .... Mr S Swiers
5 /3P- HAZEL CREST 133 (F) M Sowersby 9-10-11 ...... D Parker
6 4-02 SPRING LOADED 8 J J O'Shea 5-10-8 ..... Michael Brennan (5)

7-4 Reve De Valse, 5-2 Mr Reiner, 5-1 Spring Loaded, 6-1 Dear Emily, 8-1 Boethius, Hazel Crest.

2.50 METRO CENTRE JUVENILE NOVICES HURDLE
(£2,217: 2m) (6)

1 0366 RECALL TO MIND 21 (B) M Sowersby 10-10 .... D Parker
2 SILENT GUEST 100F M Hammond 10-10 .... R Garritty
3 VALES ALES 83F R McKellar 10-10 .... G Cahill (3)
4 5 HOBBS CHOICE 28 G Moore 10-5 .... N Bentley
5 0 KAI'S LADY 21 S Campion 10-5 .... Michael Brennan (5)
6 MOST WANTED 13F J J O'Neill 10-5 .... R McGrath (5)

6-4 Hobbs Choice, 5-2 Silent Guest, 3-1 Most Wanted, 10-1 Vales Ales, Recall To Mind, 20-1 Kai's Lady.

3.20 REGIONAL RAILWAYS NOVICES CHASE
(£2,961: 3m 1f) (8)

1 4-13 GERMAN LEGEND 6 (F) D Lamb 6-11-5 .... J Burke
2 3312 SCRABO VIEW 42 (F,G,S) P Beaumont 8-11-5 ..... R Supple
3 /2 BARDAROS 16 (BF,G,S) Miss L Russell 7-10-12 ... A Thornton
4 22P- CLONROCHE LUCKY 210P J Wade 6-10-12 .... K Jones
5 P-84 GOLDEN SAVANNAH 11 (G,S) M Sowersby 6-10-12 . D Parker
6 4-P4 MORE JOY 21 Mrs L Marshall 8-10-12 .... D Bentley
7 /2-5 ROYAL SURPRISE 6 (S) W Reed 9-10-12 .... T Reed
8 P68U SMOKEY TRACK 8 (F,S) Mrs J Conway 11-10-7 .. S Taylor (5)

4-5 Scrabo View, 3-1 German Legend, 6-1 Bardaros, 8-1 Clonroche Lucky, 10-1 Royal Surprise, More Joy, 12-1 others.

3.50 HENNESSY COGNAC SPECIAL NOVICES HURDLE
(£6,192: 2m) (9)

1 6/5 BLANC SEING 28 J Swiers 9-10-12 ..... Mr S Swiers
2 2-11 COUREUR 22F (D,F) M Hammond 7-10-12 ..... R Garritty
3 FPP- GENERAL MUCK 186 (F) H Johnson 7-10-12 ..... S Taylor
4 KING RAT 7F J J O'Shea 5-10-12 ..... Michael Brennan
5 3121 SUAS LEAT 11 (F) J Jefferson 6-10-12 ..... M Newton
6 F-21 SUPERTOP 8 (CD,F,G) L Lungo 8-10-12 ..... M Foster
7 2 CANTON VENTURE 11 (BF) S Woods 4-10-11 ..... P Hide
8 5-P3 COURT JOKER 11 H Alexander 4-10-11 ..... B Storey
9 P4-P WHIRLWIND ROMANCE 36 W Kemp 5-10-7 ..... S McDougall

5-2 Suas Leat, 3-1 Canton Venture, 4-1 Coureur, 5-1 Supertop, 7-1 King Rat, 8-1 General Muck, 12-1 others.

4.25 METRO CENTRE 10TH BIRTHDAY HANDICAP CHASE
(£3,133: 2m 4f 110yd) (3)

1 22-4 ROCKET RUN 128 (D,BF,F,G,S) Miss L Russell 8-12-0 A Thornton
2 33FF WISE ADVICE 21 (D,F) M Hammond 6-11-2 ..... R Garritty
3 4B-P WILLIE SPARKLE 17 (CD,F,G,S) Mrs S Bradburne 10-10-0 A Dobbin

10-11 Rocket Run, 11-8 Wise Advice, 8-1 Willie Sparkle.

4.55 IN SITU HANDICAP HURDLE
(£2,108: 3m) (5)

1 5-32 BALLINDOO 8 (D,F) R Armson 7-11-10 .... Mr R Armson
2 -023 THALEROS 8 G Moore 6-11-9 .... J Callaghan
3 13-F COPPERHURST 44 (B,S) W Kemp 5-10-13 ..... S McDougall
4 P1-4 SHELTON ABBEY 44 (B,C,D,F,G,S) J Wade 10-10-3 .. K Jones
5 P6-1 CROFTON LAKE 8 (CD,F) J Dixon 8-10-2 ...... B Storey

13-8 Ballindoo, 2-1 Thaleros, 4-1 Copperhurst, 6-1 Shelton Abbey, 7-1 Crofton Lake.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: J O'Shea, 10 winners from 19 runners, 52.6%; L Lungo, 19 from 67, 28.4%; Miss L Russell, 3 from 16, 18.8%; H Johnson, 12 from 68, 17.6%; M Barnes, 8 from 47, 17.0%; G Moore, 8 from 51, 15.7%.

JOCKEYS: A Dobbin, 21 winners from 88 rides, 23.9%; N Bentley, 9 from 39, 23.1%; T Reed, 19 from 90, 21.1%; A Thornton, 9 from 62, 14.5%; J Burke, 4 from 28, 14.3%; Mr S Swiers, 3 from 21, 14.3%; P Cahill, 6 from 46, 13.0%.

COMPREHENSIVE GUIDE TO THE WEEKEND FIXTURES

FOOTBALL

Kick-off 3.0 unless stated
* denotes all-ticket match
Pools coupon numbers in brackets

FA Carling Premiership

(1) Blackburn v Arsenal
(2) Derby v Newcastle
(3) Everton v West Ham
(4) Leeds v Nottingham Forest
(5) Leicester v Chelsea
(–) Manchester Utd v Liverpool (11.15)
(6) Tottenham v Aston Villa
(7) Wimbledon v Sheffield Wednesday

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Liverpool	8	6	2	0	18	6	20
Newcastle	8	6	0	2	14	10	18
Arsenal	8	5	2	1	17	8	17
Man Utd	8	4	4	0	18	6	16
Wimbledon	8	5	0	3	12	7	15
Chelsea	8	3	4	1	11	10	13
Sheff Wed	8	4	1	3	9	11	13
Aston Villa	8	3	3	2	11	9	12
Middlesbrough	8	3	2	3	14	13	11
Leicester	8	3	2	3	6	9	11
Derby	8	2	4	2	8	10	10
Sunderland	8	2	3	3	6	6	9
Everton	8	2	3	3	8	10	9
Tottenham	8	2	2	4	6	8	8
West Ham	8	2	2	4	7	12	8
Nottm Forest	8	1	4	3	9	14	7
Leeds	8	2	1	5	6	13	7
Southampton	8	1	2	5	10	12	5
Coventry	8	1	2	5	3	13	5
Blackburn	8	0	3	5	5	11	3

Nationwide League
First division

(8) Barnsley v Crystal Palace
(9) Birmingham v Bradford
(10) Bolton v Oldham
(11) Portsmouth v Charlton
(12) QPR v Manchester City
(13) Reading v Grimsby
(14) Sheffield Utd v Tranmere
(–) * Swindon v Oxford Utd
(–) West Bromwich v Huddersfield

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Bolton	10	7	2	1	24	13	23
* Norwich	10	6	3	1	14	6	21
Barnsley	9	6	1	2	17	10	19
Tranmere	11	5	3	3	16	13	18
Crystal Palace	10	4	5	1	23	10	17
Wolverhampton	11	5	2	4	15	12	17
Huddersfield	9	5	1	3	15	11	16
Stoke	9	4	3	2	14	15	15
* Ipswich	10	3	5	2	16	13	14
Oxford Utd	10	4	2	4	13	8	14
Sheff Utd	9	4	1	3	16	12	13
West Brom	9	3	4	2	12	13	13
QPR	11	3	4	4	12	14	13
Man City	9	4	0	5	9	11	12
Port Vale	11	2	6	3	9	13	12
Grimsby	11	3	2	6	14	23	11
Swindon	10	3	2	5	11	13	11
Portsmouth	11	3	2	6	11	17	11
Bradford	11	3	2	6	9	16	11
Reading	10	3	1	6	11	21	10
Southend	11	2	4	5	11	22	10
Charlton	8	3	1	4	7	8	10
Birmingham	8	2	3	3	8	10	9
Oldham	11	1	3	7	11	17	6

* not including last night's match

UNIBOND LEAGUE: Premier division: Blyth Spartans v Barrow; Chorley v Accrington Stanley; Colwyn Bay v Spennymoor; Guiseley v Alfreton; Knowsley v Hyde; Winsford v Emley; Witton v Runcorn. First division: Congleton v Stocksbridge PS; Curzon Ashton v Harrogate Town; Eastwood Town v Whitley Bay; Great Harwood v Worksop; Gretna v Droylsden; Lincoln United v Warrington; Matlock Town v Bradford PA Ave; Radcliffe v Netherfield.

ICIS LEAGUE: Premier division: Bishop's Stortford v Aylesbury; Carshalton v Purfleet; Heybridge v Harrow; Hitchin v Chertsey; Kingstonian v Dulwich; Oxford City v Grays; Yeading v Sutton United. First division: Abingdon Town v Berkhamsted; Basingstoke v Barton Rovers; Croydon v Aldershot Town; Leyton Pennant v Maidenhead United; Marlow v Hampton; Walton and Hersham v Worthing; Wokingham v Whyteleafe. Second division: Banstead v Cheshunt; Collier Row and Romford v Egham; Hungerford v Barking; Leatherhead v Metropolitan Police; Leighton v Chalfont St Peter; Ware v Dorking; Wembley v Tilbury; Windsor and Eton v Horsham; Witham v Bedford T; Wivenhoe v Hemel Hempstead. Third division: Camberley v Hornchurch; Clapton v Epsom and Ewell; Flackwell Heath v Wingate and Finchley; Harlow v Southall; Hertford v Lewes; Tring v East Thurrock; Wealdstone v Aveley

Second division

(17) Blackpool v Gillingham
(–) Bournemouth v Wycombe
(18) Crewe v Brentford
(19) Millwall v Chesterfield
(20) Notts County v Bristol Rovers
(21) Peterborough v Bury
(22) Rotherham v Burnley
(23) Shrewsbury v Luton
(24) Stockport v Preston
(25) Walsall v Plymouth
(26) Watford v Wrexham

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Brentford	11	8	3	0	25	12	27
Watford	11	7	1	3	12	9	22
Bury	11	6	3	2	15	9	21
Chesterfield	11	6	2	3	9	8	20
Crewe	11	6	1	4	16	13	19
Wrexham	10	5	4	1	14	10	19
Millwall	11	5	3	3	20	15	18
Bristol Rovers	11	5	3	3	12	9	18
Burnley	11	5	1	5	17	15	16
Shrewsbury	11	4	4	3	15	12	16
Luton	10	5	1	4	11	13	16
Peterborough	11	3	6	2	22	20	15
* Bristol City	11	4	2	5	20	18	14
Stockport	11	4	2	5	14	17	14
Gillingham	11	4	2	5	12	13	14
Plymouth	11	3	4	4	14	17	13
Notts County	11	3	3	5	9	10	12
Blackpool	11	3	3	5	9	12	12
Walsall	11	3	2	6	12	17	11
* York	11	2	4	5	15	18	10
Wycombe	11	2	4	5	13	17	10
Preston	11	3	1	7	11	15	10
Bournemouth	11	3	1	7	9	13	10
Rotherham	11	1	2	8	12	23	5

* not including last night's match

Third division

(27) Brighton v Cambridge Utd
(28) Cardiff v Barnet
(29) Colchester v Wigan
(30) Exeter v Northampton
(31) Fulham v Doncaster
(32) Hartlepool v Darlington
(33) Leyton Orient v Hull
(34) Mansfield v Swansea
(35) Rochdale v Carlisle
(36) Scarborough v Chester
(37) Scunthorpe v Lincoln
(38) Torquay v Hereford

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Carlisle	11	7	3	1	16	12	24
Fulham	11	8	0	3	16	9	24
Wigan	11	7	2	2	19	11	23
Cambridge Utd	11	7	2	2	18	12	23
Hull	11	4	6	1	9	7	18
Scarborough	11	4	5	2	19	14	17
Chester	10	5	2	3	14	11	17
Torquay	11	4	4	3	13	10	16
Leyton Orient	11	4	3	4	9	7	15
Lincoln	11	4	2	5	14	15	14
Hartlepool	11	4	2	5	15	12	14
Barnet	11	3	5	3	11	8	14
Cardiff	9	4	2	3	8	9	14
Scunthorpe	11	4	1	6	11	15	13
Darlington	11	3	3	5	16	18	12
Doncaster	11	3	3	5	12	14	12
Mansfield	11	2	6	3	9	12	12
Swansea	11	3	2	6	12	17	11
Hereford	11	3	2	6	17	16	11
Exeter	11	3	2	6	10	17	11
Northampton	11	2	4	5	14	13	10
Colchester	11	1	7	3	10	15	10
Rochdale	10	2	4	4	7	11	10
Brighton	11	2	2	7	10	21	8

Vauxhall Conference

(–) Altrincham v Northwich
(–) Kidderminster v Telford

Bell's Scottish League
Premier division

(39) Aberdeen v Dunfermline
(40) Celtic v Motherwell
(41) Dundee Utd v Kilmarnock
(42) Hibernian v Rangers
(43) Raith v Hearts

First division

(44) Clydebank v Airdrie
(45) Falkirk v Dundee
(46) Partick v East Fife
(47) St Johnstone v Greenock Morton
(48) St Mirren v Stirling

Second division

(49) Ayr v Livingston
(–) Berwick v Stranraer
(–) Clyde v Stenhousemuir
(–) Hamilton v Dumbarton
(–) Queen of South v Brechin

Third division

(–) Alloa v Forfar
(–) Arbroath v Queen's Park
(–) Cowdenbeath v East Stirling
(–) Montrose v Inverness CT
(–) Ross County v Albion

DR MARTENS LEAGUE: Premier division: Atherstone v Halesowen; Crawley v King's Lynn; Gloucester v Nuneaton; Gravesend and Northfleet v Dorchester; Newport AFC v Baldock; Salisbury v Ashford. Midland division: Dudley Town v RC Warwick; Evesham v Moor Green; Grantham v Ilkeston; Raunds T v VS Rugby; Redditch v Paget R; Stafford v Rothwell; Sutton Coldfield T v Corby. Southern division: Erith and Belvedere v Weston-super-Mare; Fleet T v Cinderford; Forest Green v Fisher London; Margate v Havant; Tonbridge Angels v Newport IoW; Waterlooville v Dartford; Yate v Buckingham Town.

FA CUP: Third qualifying round: Atherton v Bamber Bridge; Bashley v Thatcham; Bath v Cirencester; Bishop Auckland v Consett; Boreham Wood v Edgware Tn; Boston v Sudbury W; Bromley v St Leonards Stamcroft; Cambridge C v Canvey Island; Chelmsford v Wisbech; Cheltenham v Weymouth; Dagenham and Redbridge v Uxbridge; Dover v Hendon; Fareham T v Witney T; Farnborough v Bracknell; Farsley Celtic v Whitby; Frickley v Newcastle T; Gateshead v Workington; Hastings v Molesey; Hayes v Chesham; Hednesford v Tamworth; Kettering v Bedworth United; Leek v Gainsborough; Leigh RMI v Marine; Merthyr v Trowbridge T; Morecambe v Flixton; N Ferriby v Lancaster; Rushden and Diamonds v Bilston T; Shepshed D v Knypersley V; Southport v Burton; St Albans v Stansted; Stalybridge v Ashton U; Stevenage v Braintree T; Sudbury T v S and L Corby; Tiverton T v Yeovil; Tooting and Mitcham v Staines; Welling v Herne Bay.

LEAGUE OF WALES: Barry v Flint Town (2.30); Conwy v Cwmbran (2.30); Llansantffraid v Caernarfon; Newtown v Bangor City.

WELSH CUP: Second round: Abergavenny v BP Llandarcy; Aberystwyth v Penycae; Brymbo Broughton v Caersws; Caldicot v Ton Pentre; Cefn Druids v Oswestry; Cemaes Bay v Mostyn; Grange Quins v Risca; Haverfordwest v Bridgend; Holywell v Rhydymwyn; Knighton v Lex; Llanwern v Newport Ymca; Pontardawe v Ebbw Vale; Porth Tywyn v Caerleon; Porthcawl v Pontyclun; Porthmadog v Buckley; Rhayader v Ruthin; Rhyl v Connah's Quay; SW Police v Taff's Well; Treharris v Llanelli; Treowen v Port Talbot; Welshpool v Llandrindod Wells. Postponed: Carmarthen v Briton Ferry.

ESSEX SENIOR LEAGUE: Premier division: Burnham Ramblers v Southend Manor; Ford United v Hullbridge Sports; Great Wakering v Ilford; Sawbridgeworth v Concord; Saffron Walden v Brentwood.

LONDON SPARTAN LEAGUE: Premier division: Beaconsfield SYCOB v Islington St Marys; Brook House v Brimsdown Res; Cockfosters v Ruislip Manor; Croydon v Waltham Abbey; Hanwell v Barkingside; Hanngey v Amersham; St Margaretsbury v Hillingdon Boro; Tottenham Omada v Harefield.

COMBINED COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Ash v Netherne; Cobham v Cranleigh; Corinthian-Casuals v Reading; Cove v Westfield; Hartley Wintney v Viking Sports; Feltham v Godalming and Guildford; Merstham v Bedfont; Raynes Park Vale v Farnham; Walton Casuals v Chipstead.

ENDSLEIGH INSURANCE MIDLAND COMBINATION: Premier division: Alvechurch v David Lloyd; Bilston Community College v Massey Ferguson; Kenilworth v Handrahan Timbers; Studley BKL v Coventry Sphinx; W Midland Fire Service v Southam.

MINERVA SOUTH MIDLANDS LEAGUE: Premier division: Arlesey v Letchworth; Milton Keynes v Langford. O'Brien/Mckenzie Butchers premier division Cup: Potters Bar v London Colney.

SCREWFIX DIRECT LEAGUE: Premier division: Barnstaple v Paulton R; Bridgwater v Elmore; Calne v Bideford; Chard v Backwell; Odd Down v Westbury; Taunton v Brislington; Torrington v Bridport.

JEWSON EASTERN COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Bury Town v Wroxham; Clacton v Warboys; Fakenham v Tiptree; Hadleigh U v Harwich and Parkeston; Halstead v Stowmarket; Lowestoft v Sudbury Res; March v Great Yarmouth; Newmarket v Woodbridge.

JEWSON WESSEX LEAGUE: First division: Lymington v Andover; Aerostructures v Totton; BAT v Bemerton Heath; Bournemouth v Petersfield; Brockenhurst v Downton; Christchurch v East Cowes; Eastleigh v Portsmouth; Romsey v Gosport; Wimborne T v Ryde Sports

UNIJET SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE: First division: Arundel v Hailsham; Eastbourne Town v Horsham YMCA; Peacehaven and Telscombe v Pagham; Portfield v Hassocks; Shoreham v Langney Sp; Wick v Ringmer.

WINSTONLEAD KENT LEAGUE: First division: Greenwich v Sheppey; Lordswood v Chatham; Whitstable v Slade Green.

HELLENIC LEAGUE: Premier division: Almondsbury T v Carterton T; Brackley T v Tuffley Rovers; Burnham v Wantage T; Highworth T v Bicester T; Kintbury Rangers v Endsleigh; Lambourn Sp v North Leigh; Shortwood U v Didcot T; Swindon Supermarine v Abingdon U. Premier division Cup: Second round: Fairford Town v Banbury United.

UHLSPORT UNITED COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Bourne v Newport Pagnell; Cogenhoe v S and L Corby; Desborough v M Blackstone; Ford Sports v Holbeach; Kempston v Potton; Long Buckby v Wootton; Northampton Sp v Stotfold; Stamford v Wellingborough.

INTERLINK EXPRESS MIDLAND ALLIANCE: Barwell v Rushall O; Bloxwich Town v Hinckley Athletic; Bridgnorth v Boldmere St M; Halesowen H v Chasetown; Oldbury U v Sandwell; Pelsall V v Stapenhill; Pershore T v Blakenhall; Rocester v Willenhall; W Mid Police v Shifnal T.

BANKS'S BREWERY LEAGUE: Premier division: Brierley Hill T v Bloxwich S; Ettingshall HT v Cradley T; Gornal Res v Malvern T; Ludlow T v Darlaston; Lye T v Hill Top R; Stourport S v Tividale; Wednesfield v Stafford T; Westfields v Wolverhampton C; Wolverhampton U v Walsall Wood.

NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE: Premier division: Arnold v Ossett Albion; Ashfield v Selby; Hallam v Armthorpe Wel; Hatfield Main v Denaby; Liversedge v Glasshoughton Wel; Maltby MW v Belper T; Ossett Town v Sheffield; Pickering v Thackley.

PRESS & JOURNAL HIGHLAND LEAGUE: Buckie Thistle v Rothes; Fraserburgh v Nairn County; Lossiemouth v Wick Academy.

SCOTTISH CUP: Third qualifying round: Brora v Cove; Clachnacuddin v Peterhead; Deveronvale v Elgin; Fort William v Huntly.

NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Atherton Collieries v Penrith; Blackpool Rovers v Salford; Bootle v Eastwood H; Clitheroe v Burscough; Glossop North End v Maine Road; Kidsgrove v Mossley; Nantwich v Darwen; Rossendale v Holker Old Boys; St Helens v Chadderton; Trafford v Prescot.

FEDERATION BREWERY NORTHERN LEAGUE: First division: Bedlington Terriers v Chester-le-Street; Crook v RTM Newcastle; Easington v Dunston Federation; Guisborough v Seaham Red Star; Shildon v Murton; South Shields v Durham; Stockton v Tow Law.

SMIRNOFF IRISH LEAGUE: Premier division: Ards v Portadown; Cliftonville v Coleraine; Glenavon v Glentoran; Linfield v Crusaders. First division: Ballymena v Distillery; Carrick v Newry; Larne v Ballyclare; Omagh v Bangor.

FAI HARP LAGER NATIONAL LEAGUE: Premier division: Finn Harps v Shamrock (7.30); Sligo v Home Farm (7.30).

SOUTH EAST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Cambridge Utd v Leyton Orient (11.0); Chelsea v Norwich (11.0); Fulham v West Ham (11.0); Ipswich v Portsmouth (11.30); Millwall v Southend (11.0); Queens Park Rangers v Charlton (10.45); Tottenham v Arsenal (11.0); Watford v Gillingham (11.0). Second division: Barnet v Reading (11.0); Bournemouth v Bristol Rovers (11.0); Brighton v Bristol City (11.0); Crystal Palace v Brentford (11.0); Oxford Utd v Tottenham (11.0); Swindon v Luton (11.0); Wimbledon v Southampton (11.0); Wycombe v Colchester (11.0).

ARTHURIAN LEAGUE: Premier division: Brentwoods v Foresters; Carthusians v Reptonians; Chigwellians v Lancing; Cholmeleians v Etonians.

OLD BOYS LEAGUE: Premier division: Glyn OB v O Tenisonians; O Aloysians v Cardinal Manning OB; O Hamptonians v Latymer OB; O Kingsburians v O Meadonians.

SOUTHERN AMATEUR LEAGUE: First division: Civil Service v Carshalton; East Barnet OG v Polytechnic; NatWest Bank v Crouch End Vampires; O Actonians v South Bank; O Parmiterians v O Esthameians.

SOUTHERN OLYMPIAN LEAGUE: Senior one: Hale End Ath v St Mary's Coll; Ulysses v Albanian.

SCHOOLS MATCHES (kick-off 10.30 unless stated): English Schools Fuji Film Trophy: Second round: Southern area: Cardiff v Swindon; East Berks v Oxford; Croydon v Ouse Valley; Gravesham v Worthing; Guildford v Brighton; Great Yarmouth v Ipswich (11.0); Lowestoft v Harlow; Islington v Barnet; Newham v Barking; Peterborough v Mid Herts; Poole v Slough (11.0); South East Sussex v Shepway; West London v Luton; West Suffolk v Redbridge. Midlands area: Aston v North Shropshire; Brierley Hill v Birmingham (10.0); East Riding v South Kesteven (10.15); Grantham v Coalville; Halesowen v Telford (10.0); Hull v Grimsby (11.0); Solihull v Mid and South Warwicks; Stafford v Coventry (11.0); Walsall v West Bromwich (10.0); Wolverhampton v Stoke (10.0). Northern area: Blackpool v Manchester; Carlisle v Middlesbrough; Chester-le-Street v Redcar; Chorley v Trafford; Copeland v Darlington (11.0); East Northumberland v East Durham; Halton v Bolton; Leeds v Bradford; Macclesfield v Kirkby Knowsley; North Tyneside v Barrow; Rochdale v Bury; Rossingdale v Kendal; Sefton v Chester (10.45); South Cheshire v St Helens; Sheffield v Calderdale; West Tyne v Bishop Auckland; Wigan v Liverpool

RUGBY LEAGUE

NATIONAL CONFERENCE LEAGUE: Premier division: Beverley v Woolston (2.30); Egremont v Lock Lane (2.30); Mayfield v Oldham St Annes (2.30); Saddleworth v Leigh Miners (2.30); Wigan St Patrick's v Heworth (2.30). First division: East Leeds v Thornhill (2.30); Eastmoor v Barrow Island (2.30); Leigh East v Askam (2.30); Moldgreen v Blackbrook (2.30); Walney Central v Oulton (2.30). Second division: Eccles v Featherstone Amateur (2.30); New Earswick v Normanton (2.30); Ovenden v Dewsbury Moor (2.30); Redhill v York Acorn (2.30); Shaw Cross v Hull Dockers (2.30); Skirlaugh v Milford (2.30)

RUGBY UNION

Kick-off 3.0 unless stated

Heineken Cup
Pool A

Bath v Edinburgh
Pontypridd v Treviso (2.30)

Pool B

Llanelli v Leinster (2.30)
Pau v Scottish Borders (4.0)

Pool C

Brive v Neath (4.15)

Pool D

Munster v Milan
(at Cork)

European Conference
Pool A

Agen v Newport (7.0)
Newbridge v Glasgow (2.30)
Sale v Montferrand

Pool B

Bridgend v Castres (2.30)
Bristol v Treorchy
Narbonne v Dinamo Bucharest (6.30)

Pool C

Connacht v Padova
(at Playing Fields, Galway, 2.30)
Orrell v Dunvant

Pool D

Bourgoin v Bègles-Bordeaux (2.0)
Gloucester v Ebbw Vale
Swansea v London Irish (2.30)

Courage Clubs Championship
Second division

Blackheath v Coventry
Nottingham v Rotherham
Richmond v London Scottish
Rugby v Moseley
Wakefield v Newcastle
Waterloo v Bedford

Third division

Clifton v Reading
Fylde v Otley
Havant v Liverpool St Helens
London Welsh v Harrogate
Lydney v Exeter
Morley v Rosslyn Park
Redruth v Wharfedale
Walsall v Leeds

Pilkington Cup
Second round

Askeans v Swanage and Wareham
Barnstaple v Plymouth
Bishop's Stortford v Met Police
Bridlington v Blaydon
Cheltenham v Worcester
Gloucester Old Boys v Newbury
Haywards Heath v Bracknell
Manchester v Wigton
New Brighton v Preston Grasshoppers
Norwich v Esher
Sandal v Tynedale
Sheffield v Kendal
Staines v Henley
Weston-super-Mare v High Wycombe
Widnes v Birmingham/Solihull
Winnington Park v Aspatria

Welsh League
Second division

Abercynon v Maesteg (2.30)
Blackwood v Aberavon (2.30)
Bonymaen v Pontypool (2.30)
Cross Keys v Abertillery (2.30)
Llandovery v South Wales Police (2.30)
Cardiff Inst v Ystradgynlais (2.30)

THIRD DIVISION: Builth Wells v Narberth; Kenfig Hill v Llanharan; Penarth v Merthyr; Rumney v Mountain Ash; Tondu v Tenby Utd; Tredegar v Pyle

CLUB MATCHES: Biggar v Preston Lodge; Camberley v Ruislip; Cambridge University v Loughborough Students; Currie v Stewart's Melville FP; Dundee HSFP v Boroughmuir; Glasgow Academicals v Kilmarnock; Glasgow High/Kelvinside v Ayr; Glasgow Southern v Glenrothes; Grangemouth v Kirkcaldy; Hawick v Gala; Jed-Forest v Kelso; Melrose v Peebles; Musselburgh v Corstorphine; Selkirk v Hillhead/Jordanhill; Watsonians v West Hartlepool; West of Scotland v Stirling County

HOCKEY

MEN'S NATIONAL LEAGUE: Premier division: Cannock v East Grinstead (at Morris Ground, 1.0); Guildford v Canterbury (at King's Manor School, 12.30); Old Loughtonians v Havant (at Chigwell, 1.30); Reading v Southgate (at Sonning Lane, 2.0); Surbiton v Barford Tigers (at Sugden Road, 2.30); Teddington v Hounslow (at Teddington School, 1.30).

DTZ MIDLAND LEAGUE: Premier division: Blossomfield v Olton and West Warwick; Bloxwich v North Nottinghamshire; Coventry and North Warwickshire v Nottingham; Hampton-in-Arden v Harborne; Khalsa v Loughborough Students.

NORTH LEAGUE: First division: Ben Rhydding v Neston; Chester v Southport; Formby v Harrogate; Sheffield Bankers v Ramgarhia; Springfields v Swalwell; Timperley v Norton.

ADNAMS HOCKEY EAST LEAGUE: Premier division A: Chelmsford v Peterborough; Colchester v Cambridge University; Dereham v Bishop's Stortford; Redbridge and Ilford v Ipswich; Sudbury v Cambridge City. Premier division B: Huntingdon v Norwich City; Ipswich and East Suffolk v Bedford; Luton v Bury St Edmunds; Old Southendian v Romford; Westcliff v Clacton.

NASTRO AZZURRO LEAGUE: Premier division: Ashford v Old Kingstonians; Beckenham v Maidenhead; Bournemouth v Gore Court; Chichester v Woking; Hampstead/Westminster v Richmond; High Wycombe v Wokingham; Ramgarhia v Spencer; Tunbridge Wells v Anchorians; Wimbledon v Old Whitgiftians; Winchester v Fareham. Middx/Berks/Bucks and Oxon: Amersham v West Hampstead; Bracknell v Harrow; City of Oxford v Eastcote; Farnham Common v PHC Chiswick; Headington v Gerrards Cross; Newbury v Mill Hill; OMT v Marlow; Richings Park v Lions; Staines v Hayes; Sunbury v Milton Keynes. Hampshire/Surrey: Andover v Old Walcountians; Basingstoke v Dulwich; Old Cranleighans v Oxted; Southampton v Portsmouth; Blandford v Cheam; Petersfield v Goan; Walton and Weybridge v Epsom; London University v Purley; Old Mid-Whitgiftians v Camberley; Croshot v Barnes. Kent/Sussex: Eastbourne v Brighton; Horsham v Belvedere; Lloyds Bank v Worthing; Marden Russets v Bognor; Mid Sussex v Bexley Invicta; Old Bordenians v Middleton; Old Holcombeians v Herne Bay; Old Williamsonians v Ashford; Sevenoaks v Blackheath; Tulse Hill v Bexleyheath.

WOMEN'S NATIONAL LEAGUE: Premier division: Hightown v Sutton CL (Formby CC, 1.30); Ipswich v Doncaster (12.0); Slough v Clifton (Wexham, 2.0); Trojans v Leicester (1.30). First division: Bluebarts v Bedans (12.30); Bracknell v Wimbledon (2.0); Canterbury v Olton (12.0); Chelmsford v Bradford (11.15). Second division: Ealing v Loughborough Students (Indian Gymkhana HC, 1.15); Exmouth v Woking (12.0); St Albans v Loughtonians (2.30); Sherwood v W Witney (12.0)

OTHER SPORT

BASKETBALL: Budweiser League: Derby v Manchester (7.30); Hemel and Watford v Worthing (7.30). Men's National League First division: Cardiff v Guildford; Coventry v Ware; Liverpool v Nottingham; Mid Sussex v Stockton; Oxford v Westminster; Solent v Bury and Bolton. Women's National League. First division: Birmingham v Rhondda; Harlesden v London; Ipswich v Nottingham; Sheffield v Ipswich; Spelthorne v Barking and Dagenham

GOLF: Alfred Dunhill Cup (at St Andrews)

ICE HOCKEY: European Cup: Sheffield v Tilburg (7.0). Superleague: Newcastle v Bracknell (6.40); Nottingham v Cardiff (7.0); Basingstoke v Ayr (6.30)

LACROSSE: North of England premier division: Mellor v Boardman and Eccles; Cheadle Hulme v Heaton Mersey; Moorthorpe v Poynton; Cheadle v Old Waconians; Hulmeians v Stockport

ROWING: Pairs Head of the River (Hammersmith to Mortlake, 1.0).

SPEEDWAY: Premier League: Coventry v Poole (7.30); Cradley Heath and Stoke v Exeter (at Stoke, 7.30); Swindon v Peterborough (8.0). Yorkshire Trophy, second leg: Bradford v Hull. Conference League. Knockout Cup: Final, second leg: Mildenhall (29) v Linlithgow (49) (7.30). Junior Challenge: Berwick v Newcastle Supporters' Club Select (7.0).

VOLLEYBALL: Men: First division: Ealing v Liverpool (7.0); Whitefield v Leeds (7.0); Warwick v Crofton (6.30); Tooting v Stoke (6.30); Lewisham v Wessex (2.30). Women's Champion Cup: VC Marner (Lux) v Britannia Music City (7.30).

TOMORROW

FOOTBALL

Kick-off 3.0 unless stated

FA Carling Premiership

Coventry v Southampton (4.0)

Nationwide League
First division

* Port Vale v Stoke (1.0)
Southend v Wolverhampton (1.0)

Uefa under-18 championship qualifier

England v Northern Ireland
(at York City FC)

FAI HARP LAGER NATIONAL LEAGUE: Premier division: Cork v Bray (2.0); UCD v Derry (3.15).

FA WOMEN'S PREMIER LEAGUE: National division: Arsenal v Tranmere Rovers (at Bromley FC, 2.0); Croydon v Doncaster (at Croydon Sports Arena, 2.0); Liverpool v Ilkeston Town (at Kirkby Sports Stadium, 12.0); Millwall v Everton (at Fisher FC, 2.0); Southampton v Wembley (at AFC Totton, 2.0).

FA WOMEN'S LEAGUE: Northern division: Blyth Spartans v Stourport; Garswood St Helens v Wolverhampton; Huddersfield v Bradford; Notts County v Aston Villa; Sheffield Wednesday v Bronte. Southern division: Brighton and Hove v Ipswich; Langford v Oxford United; Leyton Orient v Three Bridges; Whitehawk v Town and County; Wimbledon v Berkhamstead.

RUGBY UNION

Heineken Cup
Pool C

Caledonia v Ulster
(at McDiarmid Park, 2.30)

Pool D

Wasps v Cardiff
(at Loftus Road, 3.0)

European Conference
Pool C

Toulon v Northampton (2.0)

RUGBY LEAGUE

TOUR MATCH: Barla Great Britain v Australian Aboriginals (at Workington, 2.30)

HOCKEY

MEN'S NATIONAL LEAGUE: Premier division: Barford Tigers v Old Loughtonians (at Holyhead Leisure Centre, 1.0); Canterbury v Cannock (at Polo Farm, 1.0); Havant v Southgate (at Havant College, 2.15); Hounslow v Reading (at Dukes Meadows, Chiswick, 2.0); Surbiton v Guildford (at Sugden Road, 2.30); Teddington v East Grinstead (at Dukes Meadow, Chiswick, 12.0). First division: Gloucester City v Hull (at Plock Court, 1.30); Harleston Magpies v Firebrands (at Shotford Heath, 2.0); Isca v Indian Gymkhana (at Exeter School, 2.30); Lowes v Beeston (at Southdown Club, 1.30); Oxford Hawks v Bluebarts (at Banbury Road, 12.30); Oxford University v Bournville (at St Edward's School, 2.0); Sheffield v Bromley (at Abbeydale Park, 2.30); St Albans v City of Portsmouth (at Clarence Park, 2.0); Stourport v Crostyx (at Kidderminster School, 2.30); Trojans v Doncaster (at Stoneham Lane, 1.30); Warrington v Edgbaston (at Penketh County HS, 12.30).

HA CUP: First round: Anchorians v Beckenham; Army Qualifier v Maidenhead; Basingstoke v Lloyds Bank; Ben Rhydding v Bowdon; Bloxwich v Evesham; Chelmsford v Luton Town; Cheltenham v Royal Navy Qualifier; Chichester v Old Williamsonians; Coalville v Harborne; Colchester v Berkhamsted; Cronkbourne (IoM) v Alderley Edge; Dereham v Bury St Edmunds; Exmouth v Weymouth; Farnham Common v Middleton; Finchfield v Hampton-in-Arden; Glaxo v Timperley; Gore Court v Eastcote; Hampstead and W v Southampton; Harrogate v Formby; Hayes v Fareham; Headington v Cheam; Jersey v Bodmin; John Player v Old Halesonians; Khalsa v Olton and West Warwicks; Leominster v Yeovil and Sherborne; Letchworth v Norwich City; Lions v Woking; Liverpool Sefton v Halifax; London University v Ashford (Middx); Mid Sussex v Andover; Milton Keynes v High Wycombe; Northampton Saints v Burton; Norton v Manchester; Nottingham v Belper; Old Kingstonians v Winchester; Old Walcountians v Tunbridge Wells; Peterborough Town v Wapping; Phoenix v City of Oxford; Plymouth v Blandford; Ramgarhia (Leeds) v Chester; Ramgarhia (Middx) v Purley; Redbridge and Ilford v Ipswich; Sheffield Bankers v Lytham St Annes; Shrewsbury v Loughborough Town; Spalding v Bourne; Stockton v Southport; Swalwell v Services Qualifier; Welwyn GC v Cambridge City; West Herts v Clacton; West Wilts v Westbury and Utd Banks; Weston-super-Mare v Robinsons; Wimbledon v Spencer; Wokingham v Blackheath; Worcester Norton v North Notts; Worthing v Old Whitgiftians; York v Blackburn

WOMEN'S WELSH CUP: First round: Arduduwy v Haverfordwest; Caerphilly v Pontypridd; Cardiff v UWIC; Colwyn Bay v Howardians; Llan and Llan v Cardiff Ath; Newport v Newtown; Penarth v Wrexham; Swansea v Ruthin.

OTHER SPORT

BASKETBALL: Budweiser League: Chester v Leopards (6.0); Newcastle v Leicester (7.0)

GOLF: Alfred Dunhill Cup (at St Andrews)

ICE HOCKEY: European Cup: Sheffield v Steaua Bucharest (7.0). Superleague: Bracknell v Ayr (6.0); Cardiff v Manchester (6.0)

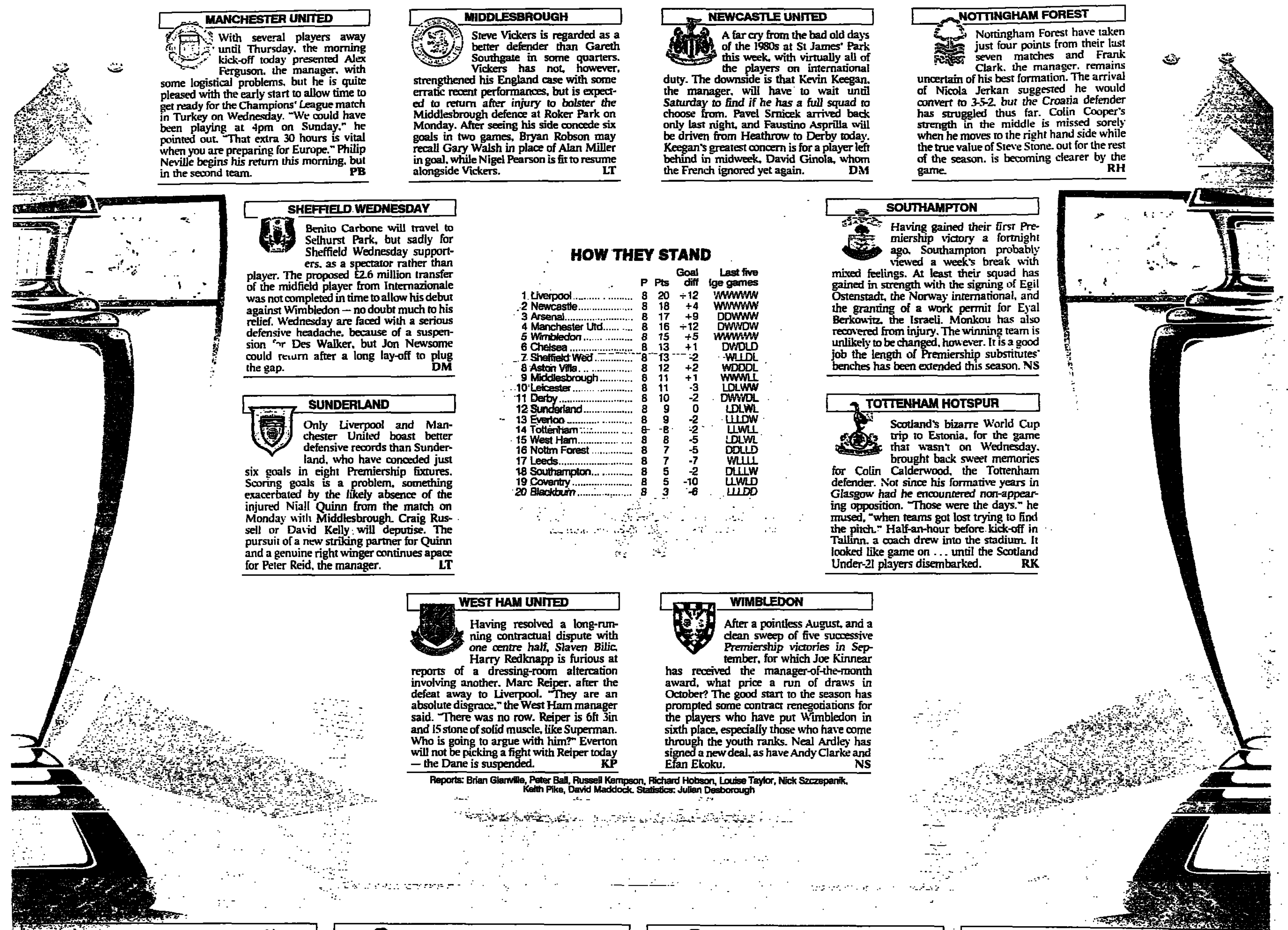
MOTORCYCLING: British superbike championship (at Donington Park).

MOTOR RACING: Formula Three championship (at Silverstone).

SPEEDWAY: Premier League: Eastbourne v Oxford (3.30); Scottish Monarchs v Poole (6.30). Conference League: Challenge: Nathan Gaymer Memorial Fours Trophy: Sittingbourne v Peterborough v Eastbourne v Reading (1.0)

VOLLEYBALL: Women: First division: Sheffield Wednesday v Leeds (2.30); Liverpool v Guildford (12.45); Essex v London (12.30); Salford v Birmingham (2.15).

THE TIMES GUIDE TO THE PREMIERSHIP THIS WEEKEND



ARSENAL

Highbury is churning out rumours of massive profits with shares allegedly being transferred at up to £22,000 each. David Dein, the vice-chairman, is said to have made anything up to £5 million; Danny Fiszman is now chief shareholder. What Arsenal need is some straightforward PR. This is Arsène Wenger's first match in charge. He has made soothing noises to his present squad and recommended a couple of Frenchmen, who seem unlikely to cut the *mustard.* **BG**

ASTON VILLA

Villa Park's rumour factory worked overtime when it became known that Brian Little, the Villa manager, was taking Spanish lessons. Was he being lined up for the top job at Real Madrid? Had Barcelona *already fallen out with Bobby Robson?* The truth was less dramatic. Little has a holiday home in Majorca and, when he takes a break from the pressures and strains of life, he would like to converse more with the natives. Hence his two-hour tutorials in conversational Spanish. *Olé!* **RK**

BLACKBURN ROVERS

The search for a striker continues, but it could soon be ended. Ray Harford, the Blackburn manager, confirmed yesterday that talks are progressing with Oliver Bierhoff — the man whose goals won the European championship for Germany — and a conclusion is in sight. "We are still talking to Oliver and his advisers," he said. "I believe he would come here, and I believe Udinese would sell him to us, but only if they can get a replacement. It is the age-old problem." **DM**

CHELSEA

Ruud Gullit is not quite ready to play at Leicester and Chelsea's past three matches suggest they badly need his influence. The defence, which no longer looks the bulwark it initially did, will not find it easy to subdue the powerful 18-year-old Heskey, who can roar down the flank. And it will be interesting to see if Gullit gives a fresh chance to the young midfield player from down the road, Jody Morris. The more he plays, the more confident he will get. **BG**

COVENTRY CITY

Coventry's lack of goalscoring prowess has been mostly responsible for their parlous predicament near the foot of the Premiership. Three goals in eight matches — they have failed to score in six of them — does not exactly bode well for the arduous months ahead. *Perhaps the imminent* return of Peter Ndlovu, the Zimbabwe striker, will buck up their ideas up front. Ndlovu has not played this season, after undergoing knee surgery, but should soon be back. Hurry up; times are desperate. **RK**

DERBY COUNTY

Paul McGrath is in, but Jim Smith, the manager, has denied that *Paolo Alves, the* Portugal international forward from Sporting Lisbon will be the next arrival at the club. Smith spoke to the player's agent but balked at a likely all-in cost close to £2 million. Derby have scored just once in their past three Premiership games. Smith, though, believes Dean Sturridge and Ashley Ward, recovered after a hernia operation, will come good together, in time. **RH**

EVERTON

Having ended the search for a win by beating Sheffield Wed*nesday, Joe Royle, the Everton* manager, is hoping that the subsequent two-week gap will not interrupt the start of a run, and he has named an unchanged side for the game against West Ham today. He is still looking to strengthen his squad and next week Robert *Tomaschek, Slovan Bratislava's 24-year-old* midfield player, starts a trial period. Tomaschek had previously been on trial with West Ham. **PB**

LEEDS UNITED

Tomas Brolin may never return, but at least George Graham is getting one or two of his senior players back as he searches for his first Premiership victory against Nottingham Forest. Ian Rush and Mark Hateley are both in the squad and so is Tony Dorigo after an eight-month absence. The signing of Brolin, though, *seems to have a less happy ending.* "If Leeds won't release me, I will retire from football," he told Peter McCormick, the club solicitor. **PB**

LEICESTER CITY

Martin O'Neill, the manager, breathed a sigh of relief when Emile Heskey reported back fully fit after his full England Under-21 debut in midweek. Heskey hit a post, won a penalty and generally demonstrated why, at 18, he is among the most exciting young strikers in the country. O'Neill has dismissed reports of a £3 *million bid from Liverpool as* "utter balderdash", but said: "In a short space of time he has become very important for us." **RH**

LIVERPOOL

Stan Collymore plays, but will he be playing for a move? It is no secret that there is tension at Anfield over the *£8 million* forward, and the suggestion is that Roy Evans, the manager, is casting around for a replacement, with Emile Heskey, of Leicester, highly regarded. Much is expected of Collymore with Fowler still injured, but he has a knack of delivering at Old Trafford. He scored a wonderful goal there two seasons ago to end a long Manchester United unbeaten run. **DM**

MANCHESTER UNITED

With several players away until Thursday, the morning kick-off today presented Alex Ferguson, the manager, with some logistical problems, but he is quite pleased with the early start to allow time to get ready for the Champions' League match in Turkey on Wednesday. "We could have been playing at 4pm on Sunday," he pointed out. "That extra 30 hours is vital when you are preparing for Europe." Philip *Neville begins his return this morning,* but in the second team. **PB**

MIDDLESBROUGH

Steve Vickers is regarded as a better defender than Gareth Southgate in some quarters. Vickers has not, however, strengthened his England case with some erratic recent performances, but is expected to return *after injury to bolster the* Middlesbrough defence at Roker Park on Monday. After seeing his side concede six goals in two games, Bryan Robson may recall Gary Walsh in place of Alan Miller in goal, while Nigel Pearson is fit to resume alongside Vickers. **LT**

NEWCASTLE UNITED

A far cry from the bad old days of the 1980s at St James' Park this week, with virtually all of the players on international duty. The downside is that Kevin Keegan, the manager, will have to wait until *Saturday to find if he has a full squad* to choose from. Pavel Srnicek arrived back only last night, and Faustino Asprilla will be driven from Heathrow to Derby today. Keegan's greatest concern is for a player left behind in midweek, David Ginola, whom the French ignored yet again. **DM**

NOTTINGHAM FOREST

Nottingham Forest have taken just four points from their last seven matches and Frank Clark, the manager, remains uncertain of his best formation. The arrival of Nicola Jerkan suggested he would *convert to 3-5-2, but the Croatia defender* has struggled thus far. Colin Cooper's strength in the middle is missed sorely when he moves to the right hand side while the true value of Steve Stone, out for the rest of the season, is becoming clearer by the game. **RH**

SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY

Benito Carbone will travel to Selhurst Park, but sadly for Sheffield Wednesday supporters, as a spectator rather than player. The proposed £2.6 million transfer of the midfield player from Internazionale was not completed in time to allow his debut against Wimbledon — no doubt much to his relief. Wednesday are faced with a serious defensive headache, because of a suspension for Des Walker, but Jon Newsome could return after a long lay-off to plug the gap. **DM**

SUNDERLAND

Only Liverpool and Manchester United boast better defensive records than Sunderland, who have conceded just six goals in eight Premiership fixtures. Scoring goals is a problem, something exacerbated by the likely absence of the injured Niall Quinn from the match on Monday with Middlesbrough. Craig Russell or David Kelly will deputise. The pursuit of a new striking partner for Quinn and a genuine right winger continues apace for Peter Reid, the manager. **LT**

HOW THEY STAND

	P	Pts	Goal diff	Last five lge games
1 Liverpool	8	20	+12	WWWWW
2 Newcastle	8	18	+4	WWWWW
3 Arsenal	8	17	+9	DDWWW
4 Manchester Utd	8	16	+12	DWWDW
5 Wimbledon	8	15	+5	WWWWW
6 Chelsea	8	13	+1	DWDLD
7 Sheffield Wed	8	13	-2	WLLDL
8 Aston Villa	8	12	+2	WDDDL
9 Middlesbrough	8	11	+1	WWWLL
10 Leicester	8	11	-3	LDLWW
11 Derby	8	10	-2	DWWDL
12 Sunderland	8	9	0	LDLWL
13 Everton	8	9	-2	LLLDW
14 Tottenham	8	8	-2	LLWLL
15 West Ham	8	8	-5	LDLWL
16 Nottm Forest	8	7	-5	DDLLD
17 Leeds	8	7	-7	WLLLL
18 Southampton	8	5	-2	DLLLW
19 Coventry	8	5	-10	LLWLD
20 Blackburn	8	3	-6	LLLDD

SOUTHAMPTON

Having gained their first Premiership victory a fortnight ago, Southampton probably viewed a week's break with mixed feelings. At least their squad has gained in strength with the signing of Egil Ostenstadt, the Norway international, and the granting of a work permit for Eyal Berkowitz, the Israeli. Monkou has also recovered from injury. The winning team is unlikely to be changed, however. It is a good job the length of Premiership substitutes' benches has been extended this season. **NS**

TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR

Scotland's bizarre World Cup trip to Estonia, for the game that wasn't on Wednesday, brought back sweet memories for Colin Calderwood, the Tottenham defender. Not since his formative years in *Glasgow had he encountered non-appearing* opposition. "Those were the days," he mused, "when teams got lost trying to find the pitch." Half-an-hour before kick-off in Tallinn, a coach drew into the stadium. It looked like game on ... until the Scotland Under-21 players disembarked. **RK**

WEST HAM UNITED

Having resolved a long-running contractual dispute with *one centre half, Slaven Bilic,* Harry Redknapp is furious at reports of a dressing-room altercation involving another, Marc Reiper, after the defeat away to Liverpool. "They are an absolute disgrace," the West Ham manager said. "There was no row. Reiper is 6ft 3in and 15 stone of solid muscle, like Superman. Who is going to argue with him?" Everton will not be picking a fight with Reiper today — the Dane is suspended. **KP**

WIMBLEDON

After a pointless August, and a clean sweep of five successive *Premiership victories in September,* for which Joe Kinnear has received the manager-of-the-month award, what price a run of draws in October? The good start to the season has prompted some contract renegotiations for the players who have put Wimbledon in sixth place, especially those who have come through the youth ranks. Neal Ardley has signed a new deal, as have Andy Clarke and Efan Ekoku. **NS**

Reports: Brian Glanville, Peter Ball, Russell Kempson, Richard Hobson, Louise Taylor, Nick Szczepanik, Keith Pike, David Maddock. Statistics: Julian Desborough

BLACKBURN ROVERS v ARSENAL

TICKETS: Seats available

10-YEAR RECORD: —, —, —, —, —, —, 1-0, 1-1, 3-1, 1-1

HOW THEY LINE UP

BLACKBURN ROVERS (from): T Flowers, G Croft, N Marker, T Sherwood, L Bohinen, G Donis, J Wilcox, C Sutton, K Gallacher, J Kenna, H Berg, I Pearce, G Flitcroft, S Ripley, N Gudmundsson, S Given, W McKinlay, G Fenton, M Broomes, D Duff, J Beattie.

ARSENAL (from): D Seaman, L Dixon, M Keown, A Adams, S Bould, N Winterburn, D Platt, P Merson, P Vieira, R Parlour, I Wright, J Hartson, G Helder, P Shaw, M Rose, A Linighan, J Lukic.

DERBY COUNTY v NEWCASTLE UNITED

TICKETS: Sold out

10-YEAR RECORD: —, 2-1, 2-0, —, —, 4-1, 1-2, —, —, —.

HOW THEY LINE UP

DERBY COUNTY (from): R Hoult, G Rowett, C Powell, D Powell, I Stimac, P McGrath, I Laursen, C Dailly, D Sturridge, A Ward, A Asanovic, M Gabbiadini, P Simpson, M Carbon, L Carsley, J Quy.

NEWCASTLE UNITED (from): P Srnicek, W Barton, J Beresford, D Batty, D Peacock, R Lee, P Beardsley, A Shearer, L Ferdinand, R Elliott, D Ginola, S Hislop, K Gillespie, S Watson, L Clark, P Albert, P Kitson.

EVERTON v WEST HAM UNITED

TICKETS: Seats available

10-YEAR RECORD: 4-0, 3-1, 3-1, —, —, 4-0, —, 0-1, 1-0, 3-0.

HOW THEY LINE UP

EVERTON (from): N Southall, M Hottiger, E Barrett, D Unsworth, C Short, A Hinchcliffe, J Ebbrell, J Parkinson, A Limpar, A Kanchelskis, A Grant, M Branch, G Stuart, G Speed, P Gerrard, M Jackson

WEST HAM UNITED (from): L Miklosko, T Breacker, K Rowland, S Bilic, J Dicks, F Lampard, I Dowie, S Jones, M Hughes, S Lazaridis, S Mautone, M Bowen, F Raducioiu, I Dumitrescu, S Potts, J Moncur, A Cottee, I Bishop, H Porfirio.

LEEDS UNITED v NOTTINGHAM FOREST

TICKETS: Seats available

10-YEAR RECORD: —, —, —, —, 3-1, 1-0, 1-4, —, 1-0, 1-3

HOW THEY LINE UP

LEEDS UNITED (from): N Martyn, G Kelly, D Wetherall, R Jobson, I Harte, A Dongo, R Wallace, A Couzens, M Ford, L Sharpe, M Hateley, I Rush, A Gray, M Jackson, H Kewell, L Radebe, P Beesley, W Boyle, M Tinkler, J Blunt, M Beeney.

NOTTINGHAM FOREST (from): M Crossley, A Fettis, D Lyttle, S Pearce, C Cooper, S Chettle, N Jerkan, S Blatherwick, D Phillips, A I Haaland, C Bart-Williams, S Gemmill, I Woan, C Allen, D Saunders, B Roy, J Lee.

LEICESTER CITY v CHELSEA

TICKETS: Sold out

10-YEAR RECORD: 2-2, —, 2-0, —, —, —, —, —, 1-1, —

HOW THEY LINE UP

LEICESTER CITY (from): K Keller, S Grayson, M Whitlow, J Watts, S Prior, S Walsh, N Lennon, S Taylor, I Marshall, M Izzet, E Heskey, S Claridge, M Robins, G Parker, N Lewis, J Lawrence, C Hill, K Poole.

CHELSEA (from): K Hitchcock, D Petrescu, T Phelan, F Leboeuf, S Clarke, A Myers, M Hughes, D Wise, D Lee, C Burley, R Di Matteo, G Vialli, S Minto, E Johnsen, G Peacock, J Morris, E Newton, M Nicholls, F Grodas.

MANCHESTER UNITED v LIVERPOOL

TICKETS: Sold out

10-YEAR RECORD: 1-0, 1-1, 3-1, 1-2, 1-1, 0-0, 2-2, 1-0, 2-0, 2-2.

HOW THEY LINE UP

MANCHESTER UNITED (from): P Schmeichel, G Neville, D May, G Pallister, D Irwin, D Beckham, N Butt, R Giggs, K Poborsky, E Cantona, O G Solskjaer, R Johnsen, P Scholes, B McClair, R van der Gouw, J Cruyff.

LIVERPOOL (from). D James, J McAteer, J Scales, P Babb, D Matteo, S I Bjornebye, J Barnes, J Redknapp, S McManaman, P Berger, M Thomas, S Collymore, L Jones, M Kennedy, A Warner.

TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR v ASTON VILLA

TICKETS: Seats available

10-YEAR RECORD: 3-0, —, 2-0, 0-2, 2-1, 2-5, 0-0, 1-1, 3-4, 0-1.

HOW THEY LINE UP

TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR (from): I Walker, S Campbell, C Calderwood, C Wilson, D Howells, R Fox, E Sheringham, A Sinton, R Rosenthal, S Carr, S Nethercott, J Edinburgh, E Baardson, A Nielsen, D Kerslake, D Hill, N Fenn.

ASTON VILLA (from): M Oakes, F Nelson, A Wright, U Ehiogu, R Scimeca, S Staunton, M Draper, A Townsend, I Taylor, S Curcic, D Yorke, S Milosevic, T Johnson, J Joachim, G Farrelly, L Hendrie, A Rachel, M Bosnich.

WIMBLEDON v SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY

TICKETS: Seats available

10-YEAR RECORD: 3-0, 1-1, 1-0, 1-1, —, 2-1, 1-1, 2-1, 0-1, 2-2.

HOW THEY LINE UP

WIMBLEDON (from): N Sullivan, K Cunningham, B Thatcher, A Kimble, C Perry, B McAllister, D Blackwell, D Jupp, V Jones, R Earle, O Leonhardsen, M Gayle, D Holdsworth, E Ekoku, A Clarke, J Goodman, N Ardley, M Harford, J Euell, P Fear, P Heald.

SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY (from): K Pressman, P Atherton, D Stefanovic, J Newsome, S Oakes, I Nolan, S Nicol, G Whittingham, G Hyde, J Sheridan, M Pembridge, R Blinker, R Humphreys, A Booth, M Bright, D Hirst, L Briscoe, O *Trustfull.*

LEADING SCORERS

6: I Wright (Arsenal), F Ravanelli (Middlesbrough), L Ferdinand (Newcastle United).
5: A Shearer (Newcastle United).
4: F Leboeuf (Chelsea), P Berger (Liverpool), E Cantona (Manchester United), O G Solskjaer (Manchester United), Juninho (Middlesbrough), K Campbell (Nottingham Forest), M Le Tissier (Southampton), E Ekoku (Wimbledon).
3: J Hartson (Arsenal), D Yorke (Aston Villa), G Vialli (Chelsea), E Heskey (Leicester City), S McManaman (Liverpool), A Booth (Sheffield Wednesday), R Humphreys (Sheffield Wednesday), C Armstrong (Tottenham Hotspur), M Hughes (West Ham United), R Earle (Wimbledon), M Gayle (Wimbledon).

The official internet site of the FA Carling Premiership is at http://www.fa-carling.com/

TOMORROW

COVENTRY CITY v SOUTHAMPTON

TICKETS: Seats available

10-YEAR RECORD: 1-1, 2-3, 2-1, 1-0, 1-2, 2-0, 2-0, 1-1, 1-3, 1-1.

HOW THEY LINE UP

COVENTRY CITY (from): S Ogrizovic, R Shaw, L Daish, D Burrows, P Telfer, E Jess, G McAllister, J Salako, D Dublin, N Whelan, M O'Neill, K Richardson, B Borrows, A Ducros, M Hall, M Isaias, J Filan, P Ndlovu.

SOUTHAMPTON (from): N Moss, A Neilson, R Dryden, C Lundekvam, S *Charlton, N Maddison, J Magilton, E Berkowitz, M Oakley,* N Shipperley, E Ostenstadt, G Potter, R Watkinson, D Beasant, F Benali, N Heaney.

MONDAY

SUNDERLAND v MIDDLESBROUGH

TICKETS: Seats available

10-YEAR RECORD: —, —, —, 2-1, —, 1-0, —, 2-1, 0-1, —.

HOW THEY LINE UP

SUNDERLAND (from): A Coton, D Preece, D Kubicki, G Hall, P Bracewell, K Ball, A Melville, R Ord, S Agnew, P Stewart, C Russell, M Gray, L Howey, M Bridges, S Alston, M Smith, A Rae, D Kelly.

MIDDLESBROUGH (from): A Miller, G Walsh, N Cox, G Fleming, S Vickers, N Pearson, D Whyte, N Barmby, Emerson, F Ravanelli, Juninho, A Moore, R Mustoe, Branco, P Whelan, M Beck, J Hendrie, P Stamp, C Hignett, C Liddle, B Roberts.

WHEN TO WATCH ON TELEVISION

Today

10.30am Sky Sports Manchester United v Liverpool (live)
10.40pm BBC1 Match of the Day (highlights)

Tomorrow

11.00am Sky Sports Goals on Sunday
3pm Sky Sports Ford Escort Super Sunday
Coventry City v Southampton (live)

Monday

7pm Sky Sports Ford Escort Monday night football
Sunderland v Middlesbrough (live)

هكذا من الأصل

FOOTBALL

Europe's coaches expose myth of macho Britons

ROB HUGHES

Weekend View

PROFESSIONAL football has probably never been quite so simple as tying one's boots and getting to the ground on time, the way it was once caricatured.

Nowadays, it is laced with unnerving pressures on time and space, unthinkable consequences to players. When Manchester United and Liverpool kick off at the ludicrous hour of 11.15 this morning, it will be obvious that the timing is set by television and not by the "body clock" of players.

Some of those who take part may experience undercurrents after the late tackle in a reserve game between the two clubs last weekend in which Neil Ruddock caught Andy Cole from behind, and Cole suffered cracked bones in both legs, rendering him a £7 million fallen Manchester idol.

When Arsenal kick off at Blackburn Rovers this afternoon, the players in red will for the first time come out in public after a week's preparation, again something new in the mind and body culture, under the Frenchman, Arsène Wenger. Apparently, this trainer has been stretching their limbs in ways that first made Arsenal's stalwarts laugh . . . then ache.

When Paul Ince gets back into training with Internazionale, he will be back in a "foreign" routine. "We do stretching *after* training," Ince said during his week with England at Bisham Abbey. "They say it will give you two years more on your career. I don't know — but I am doing it; I am learning every day."

We are learning to revise the myth that British footballers are the strongest and most enduring athletes in the world game. In 1972 Giampiero Boniperti, of Juventus, opined: "Given your physical strength you [the English] can both attack and defend. We Latins are at a disadvantage. Football is not just flair. It is power and physique, and you are stronger than us. There is nothing to be done, you're a different race."

That thinking was turned on its head when Juventus outpowered Rangers in Glasgow last winter. "Did you see the thighs on Ravanelli?" Walter Smith, the Rangers manager, asked. "You were looking at players far, far stronger in terms of muscle development than anything we've got. We're lagging behind physically now."

British clubs have gone into and out of cycles of physical self-improvement. Some 30 years ago the miler, Derek Ibbotson, trained footballers of Huddersfield Town and Manchester City, and Bill Shankly cracked: "Look at them, being turned into runners. Football isn't about running, it's about footballers, and they are born, not made."

'They are far stronger than anything we've got. We're lagging behind physically'

Yet Don Revie, Malcolm Allison and Terry Venables were among the coaches 20 years ago who hired fitness experts, indeed the three of them consulted a dance instructor, Lennie Heppell, to teach body movement and balance to macho players. Ron Jones, the Welsh sprinter, worked at Queens Park Rangers 15 years ago. Ruud Gullit has Ade Mafe as the fitness and conditioning coach of Chelsea, replacing Ian Oliver, the reflexologist, whom the England coach Glenn Hoddle hired last season.

So, a generation after continental clubs such as Borussia Mönchengladbach divided their training between tactical masters and fitness gurus, no self-respecting English club eschews the responsibility for tutoring players to know themselves, physically and, one hopes, mentally.

When Arsenal come out under Wenger, it will be interesting to see if the club that has produced quite the most lasting collective spirit of the past decade can accommodate the new "flexibility" on which Wenger is working. His sessions are considerably shorter than those of his predecessors, shorter but more intense, and that old cliché "exercising muscles they never knew they had" is at play.

If Wenger can expand Arsenal's game, while lowering the age of the participants and without destroying the combative camaraderie, then watch the doors open to overseas coaches.

Louis Van Gaal, trainer at Ajax, for the past five years, has pronounced that this will be his final season in Amsterdam. There is speculation that Barcelona, presently in the hands of Bobby Robson, will be his new abode. But if it is not, who among English clubs wants a trainer whose methods have been called Svengali-like, who has been a part of the tried and trusted Ajax machine that takes children off the streets, teaches them arithmetic to count their potential wealth, and raises them gradually through an adolescent and youth training programme that leaves the brightest of them unquestionably knowledgeable about everything that moves in a footballer? Johan Cruyff, with whom Arsenal spoke, said yesterday that he is aware that Ajax want him to go home to them but he considers the likelihood of his return to coaching no more than 50-50.

One hopes the odds for Andy Cole to return again by Christmas are better than that. And one hopes, when Manchester United play Liverpool at Old Trafford this morning, that the frailty of the footballing life is not forgotten. It was in the obscurity of a reserve match that Ruddock took Cole down and in the rancour that followed, Ruddock commented: "I thought I had a chance of getting the ball. I can only assume it was the way he fell."

Misplaced machismo should have no part in professional football.

Czech mates resigned to rivalry in exile

THE FACE OF FOOTBALL

David Maddock on a friendship that must go on hold at Old Trafford today

CLIVE BRUNSKILL / ALLSPORT

Poborsky has not had much to smile about since arriving at Manchester United

'Stylish Berger has adapted much more quickly to life in England'

Patrik Berger pauses for what seems an age, pondering what he knows is a difficult question to answer diplomatically. Finally, with the precision evident in his crafted midfield play, he offers his considered verdict: "We were partners in a glorious adventure, and now we have set off on our own individual adventures."

Berger has not turned to mysticism; he is attempting to explain how he will approach the contest today against his fellow Czech exile, Karel Poborsky. Only three months ago, they charmed England as the focal points of a Czech Republic side that so nearly pulled off the improbable by winning the European football championship. This morning, they will be in opposition in what is the most keenly disputed contest in the FA Carling Premiership — Manchester United versus Liverpool. It is not a match for friends, and already that is beginning to dawn on Berger.

Both found their way to England on the back of a stimulating Euro 96. It was Poborsky who created the strongest first impression with a wondrous goal in the quarter-final to defeat Portugal and a remarkable display along the right flank that earned him a move to Old Trafford. Two months into the season, however, it is Berger who appears to have made the more lasting impression. While Poborsky has fluttered in and out of the United side, Berger has made a Liverpool place his own with a spectacular sequence of five goals in four games.

The smart money was always on Berger to settle in quickly. While Poborsky is from the small village of Třeboň, in the Bohemian forest, and found Prague too "big-city" for his tastes, Berger is very much a pan-European man of the Nineties. At 18, he wanted to leave Prague to explore the world, and got his move — to Borussia Dortmund — because he felt he deserved more money.

Even the haircuts are significant. Berger's is stylish and confident, Poborsky's . . . well, a mess. Jokes about it make him laugh, but he has not found too much to smile about since arriving in Manchester.

"It is very hard," he said. "I'm staying in a hotel, and I am about to move into a house with my family, my wife Marcela and son Patrik. But I'm missing them."

Poborsky added: "As soon as the house is settled and the family are settled, everything will be fine, but it is hard to get close to everyone at the moment because I don't speak the language, and I don't have an interpreter here. But the players have all been helpful, and I know I will soon settle in."

He is being helped by Berger, whose family is already settled into a house in Southport, the usual resting place for Merseyside footballers. He also has a son called Patrik. Since being thrown together in the North West, the pair have eased each other through the problems of language and culture.

"Karel is a quiet person, and I think he does like the quiet life back home," Berger said. Poborsky explained: "I have a house by the lakeside near the forest back home, and I do miss it. I used to go there from Prague if I felt homesick, and I still miss it a little now. You cannot meet a soul for weeks, it is very peaceful."

Berger has no such problems, as his form since getting a first-team chance indicates. He travels along the M62 to see his Czech Republic and former Sparta Prague team-mate, and is quickly adapting to life in England.

"I love it here," he said. "I'm very happy, and I love playing for Liverpool. I have always been a big fan of the club, and that is why I wanted to come here. Dortmund did not want me to leave, but we had an agreement, and when I knew Liverpool were interested, I begged them to honour it.

"The lifestyle over here is wonderful, and I think I have settled quickly, thanks to my team-mates. But Karel will settle too, because he is a fine player and he is going to be a big success."

Success is a word both players are fond of. Poborsky believes that the foreign influx into England will be a success because of the quality of the players arriving and that it will help youngsters to broaden their horizons. But, clearly, they will have different opinions when it comes to success today. Poborsky said that defeat for United would be very costly, even at this early stage of the season, and Berger concedes that their friendship will have to be put aside for this match.

"It will be strange being in opposition in such a big game, because we have been on the same side always, for the Czech Republic and Sparta," he said. "But we understand the match. We will be friends before the game, and afterwards, but for 90 minutes we will forget about friends."

Silenzi's unhappy stay almost over

By Richard Hobson

THE FA Carling Premiership will gain another Italian forward on Monday when Benito Carbone will sign for Sheffield Wednesday. It is also about to lose one, however, and the imminent departure of Andrea Silenzi from Nottingham Forest to the *Serie B* side, Venezia, should serve to remind that nationality is no guarantee of success.

In contrast to Fabrizio Ravanelli, who can do no wrong at Middlesbrough, Silenzi, capped five times, has endured a torrid time since joining Forest from Torino for £1.8 million in July last year. Frank Clark, the Forest manager, will continue negotiations over the weekend to allow Silenzi to join Venezia on loan until the end of the season, when the club will buy him for around £900,000.

Silenzi has almost two years of his contract remaining, and is one of the highest paid players at the City Ground. He has struggled with injury, and has never come to terms with the pace of English football. Surprisingly, his touch has also proved cumbersome. He has made 12 Premiership appearances, eight of them as a substitute, and failed to score. This after publicly setting a target of 25 goals last season.

Unlike Silenzi, Carbone can expect an early run of matches to adapt to his new surroundings. Wednesday have agreed a fee of around £2.75 million with Internazionale, and are sufficiently confident of finalising personal terms to have arranged a press conference for Monday.

Robin Van der Laan, who captained Derby County to promotion last season, has joined Wolverhampton Wanderers on a month's loan with the possibility of a permanent deal to follow. He will join Jens Dowe, the German midfield player, who signed on loan from Hamburg earlier in the week, in making his debut in the Nationwide League first division match against Southend United tomorrow.

Ray Harford, the Blackburn Rovers manager, has said that he may soon be close to signing a replacement for Alan Shearer. However, he said it will not be Jürgen Klinsmann, the Germany captain.

Harford dismissed as "absolutely ridiculous" suggestions that Jack Walker, the Blackburn owner, had instructed him to sign Klinsmann. "We could get a call at any moment and something could be moving. Who knows?" Harford said.

Everton are taking Robert Tomaschek, the Slovakia midfield player, on a week's trial. The 24-year-old, who has also spent time with West Ham United, is due to arrive from Slovan Bratislava on Monday.

Today's Welsh Cup second round tie between Carmarthen Town and Briton Ferry has been postponed as a mark of respect to the Briton Ferry player, Ryan Preece, who died yesterday after inhaling toxic fumes while working in a sewage pumping factory in Swansea.

Silenzi: loan deal

Sinclair adds to Houston's woes

By Russell Kempson

STEWART HOUSTON knew it was going to be tough, having left the relative safety of Arsenal for the shark-infested waters of Queens Park Rangers, but even his stoic approach to life, and management, has been acutely disturbed since his arrival at Loftus Road a month ago.

QPR's record under Houston does not make pleasant reading. Not only have they been put out of the Coca-Cola Cup, by Swindon Town, but they have also failed to win in four outings in the Nationwide League first division.

Trevor Sinclair is apparently pining for the FA Carling Premiership, having handed in a transfer request, and several of his team-mates are rumoured to be equally unsettled. Though none of this perhaps meets the same criteria as past struggles at Highbury, Houston's lot is not a happy one.

Still, Chris Wright, the QPR owner and chairman, is maintaining an optimistic stance. "Stewart and Bruce [Rioch, Houston's assistant] are working around the clock to bring in new faces," Wright, who has made available funds of £5 million, said yesterday. "However, persuading players to drop a division or come over from abroad is not easy. I would ask our supporters to be patient."

Wright hinted that Sinclair may not be granted his desire to leave. "His request will be considered at the next board meeting in a few weeks' time," he said.

"We want our best players to stay and I would have thought that those who came down with us from the Premier League have a certain responsibility to help us get back up. On the other hand, we only want players who are committed to the club."

Gerry Francis, the Tottenham Hotspur manager, who bought Sinclair from Blackpool when he was in charge at Loftus Road, made an offer for the England Under-21 winger, believed to be about £2.5 million, earlier in the season. It was turned down.

Given a chance, Francis would probably renew his interest, while Leeds United and Sheffield Wednesday might also join the bidding.

Tottenham's hopes of signing Christian Ziege, of Bayern Munich, appear to have foundered, too. Francis was reported to have offered £5 million for the Germany defender, who has also attracted the attentions of Arsenal, Juventus and AC Milan, but Bayern yesterday ruled out a move.

"It is just not an issue," Franz Beckenbauer, the Bayern president, said. "Christian has an existing contract with us and he is going to keep to it. He is staying with us."

Chris Waddle, the former England winger, has joined Bradford City, of the Nationwide League first division, on a one-month loan. He will play against Birmingham City at St Andrew's this afternoon.

Waddle, who won 62 England caps, was released by Sheffield Wednesday earlier this season. He then played for a month with Falkirk, in the Bell's Scottish League first division.

"Falkirk have been absolutely marvellous and they wanted me to stay," Waddle said. "I played four games and needed the match practice after an ankle operation I had during the summer. I'm fully fit now and raring to go."

Terry Bullivant, the Barnet coach, has left the third division club. He had become frustrated at not being offered the manager's job, permanently, after Ray Clemence left at the start of the season. Terry Gibson has become caretaker manager.

FOR THE RECORD

BASEBALL

AMERICAN LEAGUE: Championship Series: Baltimore 5 New York 3 (best-of-seven series tied 1-1)
NATIONAL LEAGUE: Championship Series: Atlanta 3 St Louis 8 (best-of-seven series tied 1-1).

BASKETBALL

BUDWEISER LEAGUE: Leopards 106 Derby 78
EUROPEAN LEAGUE: Group A: Panionios (Gr) 69 Maccabi Tel Aviv (Isr) 74; CSP Limoges (Fr) 84 Ulkerspor Istanbul (Tur) 80. Stefanel Milan 87 CSKA Moscow (Russ) 74 Group B: Olympiakos (Gr) 62 Cibona Zagreb (Cro) 61: Estudiantes (Sp) 94 Charleroi (Bel) 72 Group D: Pau-Orthez (Fr) 80 Efes Pilsen Istanbul (Tur) 78: Kinder Bologna (It) 100 Partizan Belgrade (Yug) 83

FOOTBALL

WORLD CUP: American qualifying zone: Canada 2 Cuba 0 (in Edmonton).
CENTRAL CONFERENCE LEAGUE: Worcester City 5 Gloucester 0.
FA CARLSBERG VASE: Second qualifying round replay: Sandiacre 0 Ashfield 1
FA YOUTH CUP: First qualifying round. Cambridge C 1 Wivenhoe 3, St Albans 0 Stevenage 2, Corinthian 3 Walton and Hersham 1, Southwick 2 Shoreham 0; Yeovil 5 Witney 0; Northampton Sp 0 Gornal 1 First qualifying round replays: Ipswich 0 Hornchurch 1, Hartlepool 2 Carlisle 1
SCHOOLS MATCHES: Fuji Film Trophy: Second round: Chesterfield 2 Leicester 1, N Devon 3 N Somerset 0; N Leicester 2 Nottingham 3; Worksop 1 Derby 4.
MAJOR LEAGUE SOCCER: Conference finals: Washington 4 Tampa Bay 1 (Washington leads best-of-three series 1-0), Los Angeles 2 Kansas City 1 (Los Angeles leads best-of-three series 1-0)

GOLF

MADRID: Oki Pro-Am: Early leading qualifiers (GB and Ire unless stated): 138: S Cage 69, 69; J Haeggman (Swe) 69, 69; S Ballesteros (Sp) 72, 66 139: G Orr 72, 67. J-M Cañizares (Sp) 69, 70; T Kite (US) 71, 68. J Quiros (Sp) 68, 71. 140: A Cabrera (Arg) 71, 69. 141: J McHenry 71, 70. 142: G Chalmers (Aus) 72, 70; M Lanner (Swe) 75, 67, P Haugsrud (Nor) 73, 69, R Coles 75, 67; J Hawksworth 72, 70; I Pyman 69, 73, T Bjorn (Den) 69, 73. 143: M Tunnicliff 74, 69, G Emerson 72, 71, J Rivero (Sp) 68, 75, J Robson 70, 73, N Fasth (Swe) 72, 71, A Hunter 70, 73, S Henderson 72, 71 144: D J Russell 72, 72: N Briggs 73, 71, D A Russell 70, 74, J Pinero (Sp) 75, 69, D Carter 72, 72, G Brand Jr 71, 73, M Pinero (Sp) 75, 69, S Bottomley 75, 69. 145: T Spence 77, 68; R Drummond 70, 75: A Hansen (Den) 73, 72; M Campbell (NZ) 74, 71 146: D Robertson 74, 72; J Arruti (Sp) 73, 73, A Forsbrand (Swe) 74, 72, F Tarnaud (Fr) 72, 74; D R Jones 71, 75, R Willson 75, 71. J Sota (Sp) 72, 74, M Hallberg (Swe) 75, 71, F Larsson (Swe) 74, 72; M Davis 76, 70
READING, Pennsylvania: LPGA Betsy King Classic: Leading first-round scores (US unless stated): 66: A Sorenstam (Swe). 68: J Piers. 69: C Schreyer, L Davies (GB). 70: K Williams, C Pierce (GB), L Neumann (Swe), M Mallon, J Inkster, D Eggeling, K Saiki 71: M Will, M McGeorge, T Barrett, L Lindley, S Croce (It) Other British scores: 72: K Davies, C Matthew 74; S Strudwick, A Nicholas. 75: K Marshall
LA CANTERA GC, San Antonio: Texas Open: Leading first-round scores (US unless stated, round suspended due to bad light). 66: J Huston, M Heinen. 67: D Frost (SA), H Royer 68: J Morse, M Calcavecchia, K Gibson, W Austin, M Hulbert. 69: D Hammond, T Tyner, B Claar, T Woods, J L Lewis. 70: J Haas, L Mize, D Pride, C Pavin, A Bean, B Gilder, D Barganio, S Dunlap, K Fergus, S Randolph, D Ogrin, T Tryba, M Springer, T Herron, R Tway, B Kamm, B Wadkins, M Brisky, S Rintoul.
MOOR PARK GC: London Amateur Foursomes: First round: Harpenden Common bt Sudbury 2 and 1. Bush Hill Park bt Shirley Park 1 up; Berkshire bt Surbiton 1 up. West Herts A bt Fulwell 7 and 5, West Herts B bt East Berks 2 and 1: Old Ford Manor bt Enfield 4 and 3. Burnham Beeches bt Grimsdyke 2 and 1. Dunstable Downs bt Walton Heath 2 up; Malden bt Henley 4 and 3; Chigwell bt Bishop's Stortford 3 and 2, Porters Park bt Knole Park 1 up: Berkhamsted bt Romford 6 and 4; Northants bt Betchworth Park 1 up. Bramley bt Thames Ditton and Esher 1 up. Stoke Poges bt West Middlesex at 21st. Copthorne bt Crews Hill 5 and 3, Gerrards Cross bt Wyke Green 3 and 2; South Herts bt Upminster 4 and 3. Moor Park bt Orsett 2 and 1. Dulwich and Sydenham bt Knebworth 5 and 4; Army bt South Beds 3 and 2. Pinner Hill bt Roehampton at 19th. Brickendon Grange bt West Byfleet 1 up. Ealing bt Shooters Hill at 19th; Denham bt Cuddington 4 and 3; Calcot Park bt Ashford Manor 1 up, Ilford bt Hendon 1 up. West Hill bt Muswell Hill 2 and 1, Woking bt Banstead Downs 4 and 2: Ryl Ashdown Forest bt Hankley Common 3 and 1; Woodcote Park bt Ellesborough 5 and 4; Wimbledon Park bt Chislehurst 3 and 2. Second round: Bush Hill Park bt Harpenden Common 4 and 2: West Herts A bt Berkshire 4 and 3; West Herts B bt Old Ford Manor 5 and 4. Burnham Beeches bt Dunstable Downs 2 up. Chigwell bt Malden 2 and 1, Porters Park bt Berkhamsted 3 and 1; North Hants bt Bramley 2 and 1; Stoke Poges bt Copthorne 4 and 3; Gerrards Cross bt South Herts 1 up, Moor Park bt Dulwich and Sydenham 4 and 3, Army bt Pinner Hill 6 and 4, Ealing bt Brickendon Grange 2 and 1, Denham bt Calcot Park 5 and 4, Ilford bt West Hill 2 and 1, Woking bt Ryl Ashdown Forest 1 up, Woodcote Park bt Wimbledon Park 9 and 7.
ROVER CUP: Amateur four-nation tournament: England 12 Wales 4; Scotland 8 All-Ireland 8.

HOCKEY

CAGLIARI: Men's World Cup: Preliminary round: Semi-finals: Canada 6 Poland 5. New Zealand 3 Ireland 1 Fifth-eighth place play-offs: Wales 1 Italy 2. Switzerland 3 Kenya 1. Fifth-sixth place play-off: Switzerland 4 Italy 2. Seventh-eighth place play-off: Wales 3 Kenya 1 Ninth-twelfth place play-offs: United States 4 Egypt 2; China 5 Scotland 3 Thirteenth-fourteenth place play-off: Kazakhstan 5 Bangladesh 4.

ICE HOCKEY

SUPERLEAGUE: Basingstoke 2 Nottingham 5, Newcastle 3 Cardiff 5
NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL): Dallas 2 New York Rangers 1, Philadelphia 5 Los Angeles 4 (OT) Anaheim 6 Colorado 6 (tie), Phoenix 4 San Jose 1

RUGBY LEAGUE

INTERNATIONAL MATCH: New Zealand 64 Papua New Guinea 0 (at Palmerston North).
TOUR MATCH: Barrow 22 Australian Aboriginals 44 (at Craven Park)

RUGBY UNION

PARIS: Paris seven-a-side tournament: FIRA European VII 41 Japan 14. Western Samoa 29 Romania 19: Namibia 24 Germany 10, United States 38 Saltires 7, Morocco 39 Arabian Gulf 0. Holland 5 Italian Barbarians 28, Russia 19 South American Barbarians 38, Australia 71 Japan 0.

SNOOKER

MARSASKALA, Malta: Rothmans Grand Prix: Quarter-finals: A Robidoux (Can) bt D Morgan (Wales) 5-3. A Drago (Malta) bt J Grech (Malta) 5-1.

SPEEDWAY

CONFERENCE LEAGUE: Sheffield 40 Berwick 38.
IPSWICH: Billy Sanders International Memorial Trophy: 1, C Louis (Ipswich); 2, G Hancock (Cradley Heath and Stoke); 3, B Brhel (Oxford); 4, C Boyce (Poole).

SQUASH

PETALING JAYA, Malaysia: Women's World Open: Quarter-finals: L Irving (Aus) bt M Martin (Aus) 4-9, 10-9, 9-5, 9-5. C Jackman (Eng) bt S Schone (Ger) 9-2, 9-2, 9-4 S FitzGerald (Aus) bt C Owens (Aus) 9-2, 9-1, 9-1; S Wright (Eng) bt S Horner (Eng) 9-4, 9-0, 9-4.

TENNIS

SHEFFIELD: LTA Autumn satellite tournament: Final: R Koenig (SA) bt O Fukarek (Cz) 7-5, 6-0.
VIENNA: Men's tournament: Second round: G Ivanisevic (Cro) bt B Ulihrach (Cz) 6-2, 6-2 Quarter-finals: A Boetsch (Fr) bt Y Kafelnikov (Russ) 7-6, 7-6, J Siemerink (Holl) bt S Edberg (Swe) 5-7, 7-5, 7-6.
PEKING: Men's tournament: Second round: M Damm (Cz) bt M Chang (US) 6-3, 6-4. S Draper (Aus) bt B MacPhie (US) 7-6, 6-3. H Dreekmann (Ger) bt S Lareau (Can) 6-4, 6-2. G Rusedski (GB) bt J-P Fleurian (Fr) 6-7, 7-6, 6-0 Quarter-finals: B Black (Zim) bt S Schalken (Holl) 7-6, 6-4, Damm bt Draper 6-3, 6-7, 6-3; Rusedski bt G Kuerten (Br) 6-3, 6-4; T Johansson (Swe) bt Dreekmann 2-6, 6-3, 6-1.
FILDERSTADT, Germany: Women's tournament: Quarter-finals: M Hingis (Switz) bt A Sánchez Vicario (Sp) 6-1, 6-4; A Huber (Ger) bt C Martínez (Sp) 6-1, 6-3; J Wiesner (Austria) bt I Majoli (Cro) 6-4, 7-5, L Davenport (US) bt J Novotna (Cz) 6-3, 6-4.
SURABAYA, Indonesia: Women's tournament: Third round: N Miyagi (Japan) bt N Dechy (Fr) 6-1, 4-6, 6-3, Shi-Ting Wang (Tai) bt S Pitkowski (Fr) 7-6, 6-3, Y Yoshida (Japan) bt H Inoue (Japan) 6-2, 6-4. A Gersi (Cz) bt L Richterova (Cz) 6-1, 6-1.

SAILING

BARCELONA: Glenfiddich Melges 24 European Gold Cup: Positions after four races: 1, J Merricks (GB) 21pts, 2, O P Pollen (Nor) 35 7, 3, G Zuccoli (It) 40. 4, D Chapin (US) 43 4, 5, K Thelen (Fin) 46, 6, B Porter (US) 54 7: 7, K Musto (GB) 58 4, 8, I Southworth (GB) 67

BT GLOBAL CHALLENGE LATEST POSITIONS

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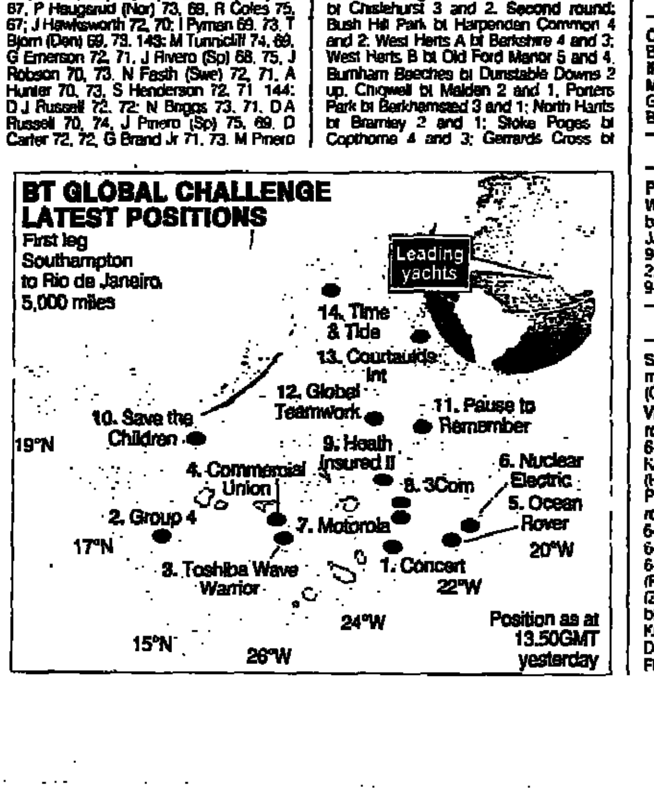

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RUGBY UNION 41

Lynagh warns Euro-sceptics of Italian threat

SPORT

SATURDAY OCTOBER 12 1996

GOLF 43

England and Scotland left pondering defeat

Hill relaxed as he approaches destiny

From Oliver Holt
in Suzuka

THERE is an image that Damon Hill has had on his mind this past week, a scene *from a film that woke him* from his sleep in the middle of the night on Thursday. It was a film about a running man, a man trying to escape a tribe that is tracking him down somewhere in 19th-century Africa, a man who *runs and runs* for his life. It was called *The Naked Prey*.

Here in Japan, Hill is running, too. Most of his pursuers have fallen away, undone either by their own *misfortunes and inadequacies* or the Englishman's refusal to be caught. They have tried to chase him down right from the start of the Formula One motor racing season, from the moment that he won the first race, in *Melbourne. Now, only* one of the hunters remains, and Hill is in the last stages of his *flight*, almost in sight of sanctuary.

Yet still the film stays on his mind. He has been a target for *one kind of predator or another for too long now. If it* was not the lawyers who pursued his penniless family after the death of his father, Graham, the world champion in 1962 and 1968, in a plane crash in 1975, it was the critics who scoffed that he would never be a racing driver like his "old man", or the doubters who said that he did not have it in him to be the world champion. *Somehow, there has always* been something innately vulnerable about him.

He could not remember the ending of *The Naked Prey* when he talked about it again yesterday, but tomorrow, in *the 53 laps of the Japanese* Grand Prix, he has one last chance to write the script himself, one golden opportunity to stop running and stand and face his peers, proud of what he has achieved and *unflinching in the face of* whatever criticism remains.

Even if Jacques Villeneuve, his Williams-Renault team-mate and the sole remaining title challenger, wins the race on the high-speed circuit, full of undulations and fast corners that the drivers love, Hill, 36, only has to finish in the top six and score one point to secure his first world championship.

He would become the first British holder of the title since Nigel Mansell, his predecessor at Williams, won it four years ago. It would be a fitting end to his four-year career at Williams, a means of ensuring a flood of lucrative sponsorship offers for next season, when he will race with the TWR Arrows team.

Although he could only set the fifth-fastest time after the first two sessions of free practice yesterday, one place behind Villeneuve and nearly 1.4sec behind the Benetton-Renault of Gerhard Berger, who was quickest. Hill was relaxed about the thought of competing in the biggest race of his life, still confident about his prospects.

The advantage held by the Williams-Renaults was camouflaged by capricious weather — soaking wet in the morning, drying rapidly in the afternoon — that prevented him and Villeneuve from working on a consistent set-up. Fine weather in qualifying should ensure that the title protagonists start alongside each other on the front row of the grid.

That, of course, would raise the spectre of another first-corner collision, such as the one that ended the championship duel between Ayrton Senna and Alain Prost here six years ago. Hill can afford to go, no holds barred, into the corner, and Villeneuve must go all out for victory and brook no compromise.

Hill has emphasised again and again that he does not want to win the championship by dint of a collision. He gave no hint yesterday of whether his thoughts have crystallised over whether to try to go out *with a glorious win or seal the championship* with a cautious drive for points, but it *did not* seem to be a *dilemma* that was disturbing him.

"I do not think there is any way I am going to get it out of my mind that this is a very important race," Hill said. "It is going to be the most crucial race of my life, but I am ready for it and I know what I have to do. I have learnt to accept that there is a lot within my control, but there are factors I can do nothing about."

Hill, who has won seven races already this season, is confident, too, that he will receive equal treatment from Williams, even though Villeneuve will remain with the team next season. Williams have even flown out two spare cars to ensure parity for each driver. His rivals are unanimous that Hill deserves the championship. At a press conference yesterday, Frank Williams, the team owner, went so far as to say it would be "nice" if Hill won the title.

"The race will be the last time I drive a Williams car," Hill *said*. "*It will be poignant from that point of view for me. I have made a lot of friends at* Williams and enjoyed working with them. It is the end of an era. When I started with them, I had not won a race. *Anything of significance* that has happened to me has been with them."

Villeneuve, who has appeared equally relaxed despite the pressures, contented himself with saying that the ball was in *Hill's court*, reiterating that the pressure was on Hill, who had everything to lose.

When he left the track for his hotel last night, though, the image of the running man was still playing in Hill's head. "He ran and ran," he said, "and every time he thought he could not run any more, that he had to stop, he saw the tribe chasing him and he kept on going. He seemed to be running forever."

Tomorrow, though, Hill can banish *The Naked Prey* from his thoughts at last. The running man has been fleeing for long enough. He has earned a long, long rest.

Villeneuve: victory task

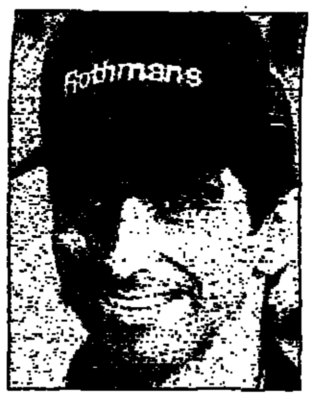
DETAILS FROM SUZUKA

PRACTICE TIMES: 1, G Berger (Austria, Benetton) 1min 42.350sec; 2, M Hakkinen (Fin, McLaren) 1:42.954; 3, M Schumacher (Ger, Ferrari) 1:43.321; 4, J Villeneuve (Can, Williams) 1:43.372; 5, D Hill (GB, Williams) 1:43.747; 6, M Brundle (GB, Jordan) 1:43.845; 7, J Alesi (Fr, Benetton) 1:43.860; 8, E Irvine (GB, Ferrari) 1:44.092; 9, R Barrichello (Br, Jordan) 1:44.441; 10, H-H Frentzen (Ger, Sauber) 1:44.598; 11, M Salo (Fin, Tyrrell) 1:44.971; 12, J Herbert (GB, Sauber) 1:45.194; 13, D Coulthard (GB, McLaren) 1:45.471; 14, U Katayama (Japan, Tyrrell) 1:45.789; 15, O Panis (Fr, Ligier) 1:45.893; *16, J Verstappen (Hol, Footwork)* 1:46.105; 17, R Rosset (Br, Footwork) 1:47.285; 18, P Lamy (Por, Minardi) 1:48.724; 19, G Lavaggi (It, Minardi) 1:50.227; 20, P Diniz (Br, Ligier) 2:02.130.

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP POSITIONS (after 15 rounds): Drivers: 1, Hill 87pts; 2, Villeneuve 78; 3, Schumacher 53; 4, Alesi 47; 5, Hakkinen 27; 6 equal, Coulthard and Berger 18; 8, Barrichello 14; 9, Panis 13; 10, Irvine 11; 11 equal, Frentzen and Brundle 6; 13, Salo 5; 14, Herbert 4; 15, Diniz 2; 16, Verstappen 1. Constructors: 1, Williams 165pts; 2, Benetton 65; 3, Ferrari 64; 4, McLaren 45; 5, Jordan 20; 6, Ligier 15; 7, Sauber 10; 8, Tyrrell 5; 9, Footwork 1.

REMAINING GRAND PRIX: Tomorrow: Japanese, Suzuka.

TELEVISION: BBC2: Live coverage from 4.45am (repeated at 8am). Highlights 10-10.50pm. Eurosport: Live coverage from 4.45am (with repeats at 7am, 10.30am, 5.30pm and 9pm).



Hill: determined

Old Trafford hosts valuable pointer to outcome of race for FA Carling Premiership

Traditional powers in summit meeting

By David Maddock

IT IS tempting to regard the contest between Manchester United and Liverpool today as more than a significant pointer to the destination of this season's FA Carling Premiership title. It is, in effect, a meeting of the old guard and the new, old style football finance and the way forward for the game.

Liverpool, England's most successful team during the 1970s and 1980s, have been superceded by the vibrant Manchester United of Alex *Ferguson of the 1990s. It is no* coincidence that United have led the way in a commercial revolution that has catapulted football into the realms of high-finance, while Liverpool is still a family-owned private concern.

Martin Edwards, the chief executive of Manchester United plc, had the foresight, in the late 1980s, to defy a strong body of opinion that sporting clubs could never go public. He held his nerve and now the club is worth approaching £300 million, with profits of *£16 million a year*.

Such success, maintains Edwards, is the only way to compete with the leading Italian and Spanish clubs. Not that the board at Old Trafford has any intention of *selling, even though their success* has created a vibrant, profit-making company. They have already dismissed one takeover proposal of £300 million, and yesterday made it clear that they are not interested in any buy-out plans. Edwards said that he is happy with the direction of the company and wants to continue taking it forward.

If United are the undisputed leaders off the field, then a strong case can be made, so far this season, for Liverpool being the leaders on it. They are top of the FA Carling *Premiership and have* embraced tactics that seem more sophisticated than their rivals.

The match today will explore just how far Roy Evans's side has come because, as the Liverpool manager himself says, to finish ahead of Manchester United will, in all probability, mean finishing first. "This one match won't decide anything," he said. "But we do know that we will have to be more consistent than United to win the title. We don't want to lose any game, but we particularly *don't want to lose this one.*"

Just how advanced Liverpool's wing-back formation is, will be tested fully in front of a 55,000 Old Trafford crowd. Steve McManaman, in his free role behind the front two, will be pivotal to how they fare, especially in the absence of the injured Robbie Fowler.

For England in midweek, McManaman was not seen at his best because some poor quality distribution from the back offered *him little* of the ball. United will counter the threat of McManaman with *Butt lying deep in midfield*, and Cantona will be asked to find ways around the three-man back line of the visitors Otherwise their line-up should be unchanged.

Cantona said: "It is important of course to win, but it is important not to lose. We are four points behind, and it is vital at his stage we don't drop too far behind them. I know that if we don't lose too many points now then at the end of the season we will beat everyone and win the title. We always finish strong, but we must not leave ourselves too much to do."

Today's game will kick-off at 11.15am because of television demands. United refused to play on Sunday because of their midweek *commitments in the European* Cup Champions' League, and this, apparently, is the only television slot that could be found.

Shares soar, page 23
***Czech mates*, page 47**
Weekend View, page 47

TELEVISION

Manchester United
v Liverpool
SKY SPORTS: Live coverage begins at 10.30am
BBC1: Match of the Day, 10.40pm

MARC ASPLAND

Patrik Berger, the Liverpool midfield player, after a final training session yesterday before the visit to Old Trafford

Asprilla absent without leave

By Russell Kempson

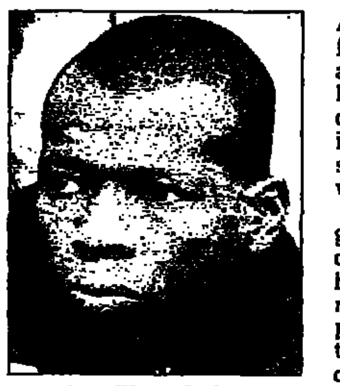
FAUSTINO ASPRILLA, the Colombia and Newcastle United forward, has gone missing. He was due to return to England yesterday, after playing for Colombia in their World Cup qualifying tie against Ecuador, but failed to show up at Heathrow.

He will not play in the FA Carling Premiership match away to Derby County this afternoon and is unlikely to feature in Newcastle's Uefa Cup second-round, first-leg match against Ferencvaros, of *Hungary*, on Tuesday. His non-appearance also casts a doubt over his future at St James' Park.

"We don't know where he is," Kevin Keegan, the Newcastle manager, said yes*terday*. "*We received* a fax from Colombia saying that his plane was stranded in Bogota and couldn't go. Although it has since taken off, we don't know where he is. We're trying to locate him." Paul Stevens, the Newcastle operations manager, was waiting for Asprilla at Heathrow. He was due to drive him to the Hungarian Embassy in London to obtain a visa for the Uefa Cup trip. Without it, the player would not be able to travel.

It is not the first time that Asprilla, a £7.5 million signing from Parma, of Italy, in February, has gone absent without leave during his career. He disappeared on the eve of an international match last season and was found drinking with friends at a horse show.

Asprilla, *who scored the* goal in Colombia's 1-0 win over Ecuador on Wednesday, has voiced *his discontent* at not being given a regular place in the Newcastle line-up this season. He has started *only five of the side's 11* matches, scoring one goal.



Asprilla: missing

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Clandestine meeting may provide solution

By David Hands, rugby correspondent

THE Rugby Football Union (RFU) met yesterday at a *secret venue with representa*tives of the English Professional Rugby Union Clubs (Epruc) in the hope of concluding the protracted dispute that has caused the clubs to threaten a breakaway from their governing body.

It is the intention of both sides to remain in touch until a resolution has been found or talks break down irretrievably. All being well, a joint statement may be made today, but the discussion could be prolonged throughout the weekend. The leading issues revolve around the organisation of competitive structures — the subject of discussions in Rome this week involving six *European countries* — and the money to be derived from them.

There is little point in the clubs trying to duplicate the support services that the RFU can offer, but the union, for its part, seeks to ensure the availability of leading players for representative games. Epruc's hopes of winning support in Scotland appear to have been lowered this week as 36 leading players signed contracts with the Scottish Rugby Union, which include the 1999 World Cup.

Continental drift, page 41

Unhappy Spaniards blow up storm

Edward Gorman finds Britain's Melges sailors overshadowed in Barcelona

The Melges 24 European Gold Cup has been overshadowed by the behaviour of the six-boat Spanish contingent, which has publicly accused the international *jury of being biased* against them. They also threatened to boycott the remainder of the championship yesterday, but then opted to sail at the last minute.

The Spanish had three of their yachts disqualified from the first counting race of the regatta which took place on Thursday after collisions at the start. The incidents were witnessed by members of the *international jury patrolling* the line in a speedboat, who then protested the offenders themselves. The Spaniards thrown out of the race were Luis Martinez Doreste, Juan Pareja Torregrosa and Tono *Garcia*, who are *all sailing* Garvalin yachts owned by Vincente Garcia.

Despite the fact that two British boats — those of Kim Slater and David Shellcock — and one Norwegian yacht were also disqualified, the Spanish concluded that the jury was acting unfairly. Their reaction was partly because the regatta is likely to be decided without a discard *after the days lost to the* lack of wind so making a disqualification a disaster.

Doreste was also smarting because he was lying second overall behind John Merricks, of Great Britain, after *beating the 470 silver* medal-winner in the second race on Thursday. In a letter signed by Doreste and posted on the race noticeboard before the start of racing yesterday, the Spanish skipper said he felt "mistreated" by the jury. The first race had been abandoned because of a "strange and unclear decision".

"All this, together with what we have been told from the *rest of the Spanish* fleet about the behaviour of the jury towards them, makes us think this event is not being held fairly and we do not feel ready to carry on playing this game," he said. The jury is made up of experienced sailors from six European nations and is chaired by the Spaniard, Jose Ma de Bareno.

Merricks, on *Glenfiddich 3*, who is *sailing with his 470* partner, Ian Walker, followed up his first and second places on Thursday with fourth in the first race yesterday and fifth in the second to stay in the lead going into the final day today.

☐ *Concert*, skippered by Chris Tibbs, is the new leader of the BT Global Challenge. Tibbs has taken the initiative from Mike Golding, on *Group 4, though his advan*tage in terms of distance to the finish of the first leg in Rio is only eight miles.

BT Global chart, page 47

هكذا من الأصل

Mandela defends judge's acquittal of apartheid general

FROM INIGO GILMORE IN CAPE TOWN

MAGNUS MALAN, the former South African Defence Minister, and nine other co-accused walked free from Durban Supreme Court yesterday after being acquitted on charges of murder and conspiracy to murder.

Cheers and applause filled the courtroom as Mr Justice Jan Hugo gave his ruling at the end of the six-month trial. On Thursday, the judge had acquitted six other men, supporters of the Inkatha Freedom Party, who were accused of carrying out the 1987 KwaMakhuthu massacre of 13 people at the house of an African National Congress supporter and a Zulu village near Durban.

Outside the court, General Malan, 65, said that he was relieved and in a statement thanked President Mandela for giving him and his co-defendants the opportunity to defend themselves in court. The ANC in KwaZulu/Natal expressed its disappointment, saying the prosecution failed "our people". A party spokesman on safety and security said the outcome undermined its faith in the judicial system.

Mr Mandela last night called on South Africans to respect the decision of the judge, who is white, to acquit the former defence chief. He said that his Government would continue to investigate apartheid atrocities and find those responsible for killings or directing the killers.

"The President reaffirms that the courts are the institutions to determine the guilt of the accused and indeed the judicial findings must be respected, even, or especially, by those who are aggrieved by those findings," a presidential statement said.

The State had alleged that General Malan and the co-accused apartheid security chiefs had given their blessing for the creation of a covert unit to support Inkatha in its fight against the United Democratic Front, the surrogate of the then banned ANC, and approved the attack on KwaMakhuthu by the six.

General Malan, the Defence Minister between 1980 and 1991, was one of the most feared and hated figures of the apartheid era, and the former ruling National Party has claimed the trial was politically motivated. The case went to the heart of the role the former South African Government played in stoking up conflict between Inkatha and the ANC from the mid-1980s in KwaZulu/Natal by providing "third force" training and support for Inkatha.

The investigation into KwaMakhuthu was revived by a task unit appointed by the Government and a failure of the State's case, which has cost taxpayers nine million rand (£1.28 million), will add to the frustration of those who believe that neither the courts nor the Truth and Reconciliation Commission are exposing or punishing those who ran the brutal former regime.

Mr Justice Hugo, pronouncing judgment, said it was apparent General Malan was involved in establishing Operation Marion to provide covert support for Inkatha, but had not intended or foreseen the activities that would flow from it. The judge singled out Tim McNally, KwaZulu/Natal's attorney-general and state prosecutor, for not calling witnesses from the initial list submitted to the court who might have supported the evidence of other state witnesses. Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi, the Inkatha leader, was mentioned several times in the indictment and there has been criticism that Mr McNally's failure to call him was political.

Leading article, page 19

President Havel of the Czech Republic steers his guest, President Sharma of India, in the right direction while reviewing a guard of honour in Prague yesterday. Before arriving for a two-day stay, Mr Sharma visited Slovakia,

Guiding hand for Indian leader

accompanied by ministers and state governors. The visits are intended to secure investment protection and cultural agreements between India and the two countries which made up the Czechoslovak federation before they divided peacefully in January 1993. Mr Sharma was also due to meet Vaclav Klaus, the Czech Prime Minister. (AP)

Nigerian women's drug gang broken up

FROM IAN BRODIE
IN WASHINGTON

A BIG international heroin smuggling ring run mainly by Nigerian women was broken up yesterday, the US Justice Department announced.

Anti-drug agents and police officers arrested 34 suspects in Pakistan, Thailand and three American cities. They also seized 121lb of heroin with an estimated street value exceeding $26 million (£16.6 million).

The case marked the first time that so many women had been involved in a drug smuggling ring, rising to positions of leadership as well as serving as couriers, said Thomas Constantine, head of the US Drug Enforcement Administration.

The Nigerian women began smuggling heroin in small amounts 15 years ago and had progressed to the point where their operation was as powerful as any in the world, Mr Constantine said.

The ring's network moved the drugs from Southeast Asia to Paris and Amsterdam for trans-shipment to Central America where they were taken by boat to Mexico and then overland to the United States.

Janet Reno, US Attorney-General, praised police in Britain, France and Thailand for "unprecedented co-operation" with the American investigators. None of the suspects taken into custody was British.

The role of Nigerians in drug smuggling has been known for several years and the trafficking has grown under the protection of General Sani Abacha, the country's military ruler. The timing of yesterday's arrests could blunt criticism by Bob Dole and the Republicans that President Clinton has been losing the war on drugs.

Mrs Mugabe on her wedding day

Mugabe's lavish lifestyle attacked

FROM JAN RAATH
IN HARARE

PRESIDENT Mugabe was dragged deeper into controversy over his newly extravagant lifestyle yesterday, with the revelation that his Government is building a 30-room mansion for his young wife, Grace.

The privately owned *Zimbabwe Independent* quoted state construction workers at the 13-acre site in the capital as saying several alterations had been made to the double-storey residence at her suggestion. The paper said it had documents to prove that the house was being built under a scheme meant for senior civil servants, and it questioned how Mrs Mugabe, 31, whose last job was as Mr Mugabe's secretary about ten years ago, had been allowed to benefit. Labour and materials alone came to about £385,000.

It is the fourth large official residence the Mugabe family has access to in Harare, and is costing as much as Mr Mugabe and the state spent on his lavish wedding in mid-August, which was attended by about 25,000 people and turned into a three-day binge.

Internet paedophile ring smashed in Spain

FROM TUNKU VARADARAJAN IN MADRID

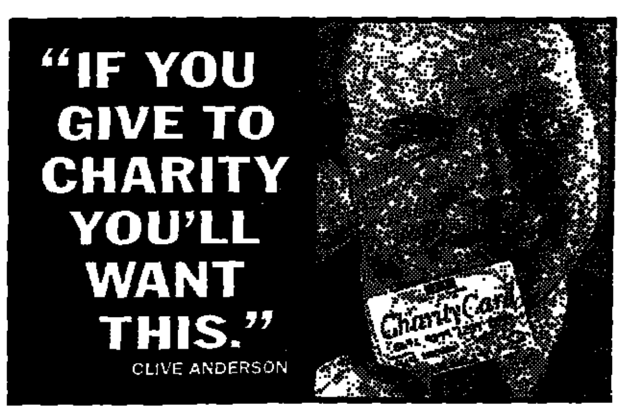
SPANISH police have broken up an Internet child pornography ring in Vic, near Barcelona, seizing the largest cache of paedophile software found in Europe.

The haul included a database of more than 4,000 files, as well as hundreds of CD-Roms, disks and printers. The masterminds — two university students in their early twenties, identified only as Eduardo A. S. and David J. S. — have been charged by police with "distributing child pornography for gain".

The two men have denied the charges and claim that the material was "only for personal consumption". The material confiscated from the students' flat was "spine-chilling and terrifying", according to Federico Cabrero, chief spokeman for Barcelona police.

The disks contain images of children of no more than three or four years old engaged in sexual acts with each other, with adults and, in certain cases, with animals.

Under Spanish law, the two are likely to receive no more than a fine if found guilty. The penal code does not provide for custodial sentences for the sale or distribution of child pornography.



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Timorese crusaders win Nobel Peace Prize

From David Watts
in Bangkok

THE Nobel Peace Prize has been awarded to José Ramos-Horta and Bishop Carlos Belo of Dili for their efforts to wrest control of the former Portuguese colony of East Timor from Indonesia.

Bishop Belo, in particular, plays a courageous role from his cathedral in the heart of the East Timorese capital, Dili, trying to mediate between an Indonesian military that has often resorted to brutal methods and young East Timorese propelled by hatred generated through a series of massacres. Mr Ramos-Horta, spokesman and leader of the Fretilin Independence Movement, travels extensively trying to mobilise support for independence for the territory.

President Sampaio of Portugal, which champions the East Timorese cause, said: "The award reflects their indefatigable work in the service of human rights and peace in the territory."

Belo: courageous role from the Dili cathedral

The award is the more embarrassing for the Indonesian Government since President Suharto is due to visit the territory in four days' time to unveil a statue of Christ, intended as a gesture of reconciliation by the rulers of the world's most populous Muslim country.

The choice of recipient angered the Jakarta Government last night. "We are quite surprised and regret that such a reputable institution could honour a person like Ramos-Horta, who had been involved in inciting the people of East Timor to separate from the unitary republic of Indonesia," the Indonesian Foreign Ministry said.

Mr Ramos-Horta, a soft-spoken and modest man who is regularly pilloried by the Indonesian Government, said in Sydney that the prize should rightfully go to Xanana Gusmão, the military leader of the East Timorese resistance, who is in a Jakarta jail after being captured by the Indonesian Army last year. Saluting Mr Gusmão, he said: "He's an outstanding man of peace and democracy, a man of courage."

The award will also embarrass the Government of Australia, which is the only country in the world to recognise the Indonesian annexation of East Timor in 1976. Canberra's recognition was soon followed by a treaty on the exploitation of oil beneath the East Timor Sea, a move that enraged Australian veterans who remember the heroism of the Timorese during the Second World War when they often put the safety of Australian troops before their own.

East Timor and its struggle rarely makes the news unless Timorese are dying in their attempts to drive out the three divisions of Indonesian troops. The worst violence since the annexation flared in 1991 when the army put down a pro-independence demonstration, killing up to 200 people, many of whom had fled into a cemetery.

Despite regular condemnation by the United Nations committee on decolonisation, the Indonesian Government has consistently refused to hold a referendum on the future of the territory. Portugal makes the case for East Timor inside the European Union, but the organisation prefers not to jeopardise the lucrative business relationships with a country which is developing rapidly.

☐ **Jakarta:** Five people died when a mob burnt nine churches, four Christian schools and a convent in the Indonesian town of Situbondo. Officials said nearly 3,000 people rioted after a court hearing into a case of alleged blasphemy against Islam. *(Reuter)*

JASON REED/REUTER

José Ramos-Horta, the joint winner of the Nobel Peace Prize for his fight to free Timor

WORLD SUMMARY

Laureate is found dead

New York: Three days after winning the Nobel Prize for Economics, William Vickrey was yesterday found dead behind the wheel of his car. He was 82.

Dr Vickrey, who was travelling to an academic conference, was found unconscious at the wheel on Thursday night and was pronounced dead early yesterday. At the family's request, the cause of death was not immediately released. It was not immediately clear what would be done with Dr Vickrey's half-share of the $1.2 million (£775,000) prize money. *(AP)*

Polling starts in New Zealand

Wellington: New Zealanders go to the polls today with a coalition government the likely outcome of the country's first general election under proportional representation (Jo Andrews writes).

Opinion polls suggest that James Bolger, the Prime Minister, or Helen Clarke, the Labour leader, will need the help of the nationalist New Zealand First party to govern.

Israel to ease security net

Jerusalem: Israel will tomorrow ease its security clampdown on the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, granting 35,000 Palestinians permits to work again inside Israel and removing the seal around most Palestinian-controlled cities (Christopher Walker writes). The move is going ahead despite intelligence warnings of new attacks by Islamic suicide bombers.

Spirit moves mayors to strike

Cognac: Mayors and municipal councillors in the cognac-producing region of Charente, western France, have gone on unlimited strike to protest against a government decision to increase taxes on spirits by 17.1 per cent. The move, aimed at cutting the social security deficit, prompted towns allowed by law to produce cognac to fly the French flag at half-mast. *(AFP)*

Firewater

Stockholm: Thousands of gallons of confiscated smuggled and bootleg vodka will be converted to methane gas to fire heating in the Swedish capital this winter, customs officials said. *(Reuter)*

Yeltsin's 'Rasputin' goes on offensive

From Thomas de Waal
in Moscow

PRESIDENT YELTSIN'S former chief bodyguard, General Aleksandr Korzhakov, once the power behind the throne in the Kremlin, emerged yesterday to deny the allegation that he had extorted $40 million (£25.8 million).

This sudden public foray by General Korzhakov, who is referred to as "a Rasputin" by his enemies, was prompted by accusations on television last Sunday that he tried to extort the money from Boris Fyodorov, the former head of the National Sports Fund.

He responded with a counter-accusation that two leading bankers had "put out an order" on him. The general said he was a threat to the new team in the Kremlin because of "the compromising material which is in my head ... I have really seen a lot and I know a lot. If I am arrested or something happens to my family, I will consider it an act of political revenge."

The general's fightback promises an autumn of political scandal. His main target is Anatoli Chubais, Mr Yeltsin's chief of staff.

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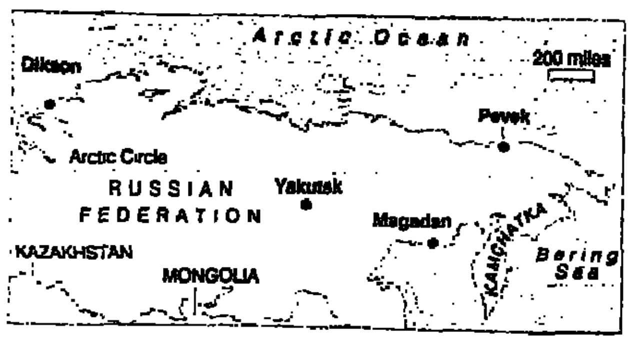
Thousands face evacuation as food and fuel crisis hits Russia's frozen north

From Richard Beeston in Moscow



TENS of thousands of Russian civilians may be evacuated from the country's far northern regions because of fears that they could freeze or starve to death over the long, harsh winter.

In what could be the most widespread evacuation since the Second World War, entire communities living in inaccessible regions of the Arctic may have to be airlifted to safety because they have been inadequately supplied with fuel and food.

"What is happening in the north is a real humanitarian crisis," said Boris Misnik, a liberal deputy, who sits on the parliamentary committee for northern issues. "Food is in short supply and most places do not even have half the fuel they require to heat themselves."

He said he had recently returned from a fact-finding visit to the Kola Peninsula inside the Arctic Circle, where buildings, including flats, schools and kindergartens, were still unheated, even though the heating should have come on at the beginning of September.

The region is nevertheless relatively well-off compared with the most remote parts of northeastern Siberia, where isolated communities are cut off for months from the outside world and where temperatures drop below -50C.

The northern regions, which cover 70 per cent of Russian territory, contain some of the country's richest mineral deposits and were extensively colonised during the Soviet period. At the time workers were attracted to the inhospitable areas by better pay and conditions.

All that changed with the collapse of communism when state subsidies evaporated and the 11 million inhabitants of the north found themselves trapped at the end of a meagre food chain.

Many of the most isolated areas can be supplied only during the short summer months when fuel and food can be transported by river. Normally 70 per cent of the winter supplies should already have arrived by the middle of July, although this year most places had only received 30 to 50 per cent of their quota by the time the rivers began to freeze up.

According to the daily *Moskovsky Komsomolets* newspaper, the worst affected regions are Magadan, Chukotka, Kamchatka, Koryasky, Yakutsk and Taimyr. Two of the largest population centres under threat are the ports of Pevek, which has still not received any of the 130 tonnes of coal required for heating, and Dikson, which is depending on one unreliable diesel engine for the energy needs of its 3,000 inhabitants.

Yekaterina Glebova, a spokeswoman for the Ministry of Emergency Situations, said rescue teams were already making preparations to meet the crisis.

"Every year this problem gets worse," she said. "We have to monitor all the regions at risk and be prepared. We can either airlift supplies of food and warm clothes in. Or we will have to fly the people out."

The hardship facing the people of the north is the most dramatic example of a problem facing millions of other Russians who are dependent on erratic government funding for their survival. The armed forces, for example, are reportedly on the verge of mutiny because they have not been paid for months, and similarly other public-sector workers — from scientists to policemen — have begun hunger strikes to protest at months without pay.

As the dispute continues in Moscow among politicians over how to improve the Government's dismal record on payments, the debate comes too late to help the people of the north as the nights grow longer and they ponder how to survive the onset of winter.

Clinton raises the campaign tempo as poll lead slips

Bronwen Maddox joins an adrenalin-charged President working the crowds on a whistle-stop tour of Kentucky, Tennessee and Ohio

FOR 15 minutes this week, President Clinton left the campaign trail to buy his wife a present for their twenty-first wedding anniversary. In Dayton, Ohio, on Thursday afternoon, in the middle of a gruelling 18-hour sweep through America's heartland, he held up his motorcade to rush into the city's finest department store. He wanted a model of a donkey, the Democrat symbol, but had to settle for a crystal glass heart.

With opinion polls showing that his emphatic lead may be narrowing, Mr Clinton has turned up the aggression, criss-crossing territory which he has every hope of winning but cannot afford to lose.

The respected but volatile tracking poll from CNN/Gallup/*USA Today* yesterday showed Mr Clinton with a lead of 12 percentage points over his rival Bob Dole, down nine points on the day before. A Californian poll also reported a four-point tightening of the Democrat lead. Although polls are fluctuating widely, the Clinton campaign is braced for its lead to narrow before November 5. That is one reason for Thursday's 1,500-mile charge through Tennessee, Ohio and Kentucky. Polls show a steady Democratic lead, but the states are too crucial to neglect.

Knoxville, Tennessee, which was reached after a dawn flight, saw a sleepy start. When Mr Clinton thanked the high school band for "waking us up", he meant it; campaign staff say he is always sluggish in the morning. In a dark suit, white shirt and red tie, he looked like a second-rank chief executive presenting the annual results. His speech awkwardly tucked big themes of race relations and world peace into his plea for every school to be connected free of charge to the Internet.

ELECTION '96

It took Dayton to raise the adrenalin. Ohio, famous for representing the American average, is a crucial battleground, holding 21 electoral college votes of the 270 needed to win. No Republican has won the presidency without it, and the state has backed the winning candidate in 22 of the past 24 elections.

In front of a crowd of 13,000, said to be the city's largest political rally, the President hammered home the slogan: "We're on the right track for the 21st century — will you help me build that bridge to the 21st century?"

The podium, deep in a canyon of office blocks, overlooked by thousands of windows, was a nightmare for the Secret Service, whose gargoyle-like heads protruded from every roof as he plunged into the crowd.

Mr Clinton's reputation for charisma is deserved. Half a head taller than the crowd, his height is invaluable, making the grey-blue eyes and the immediately recognisable helmet of hair visible to all. To those in reach, the personal touch is unfailing: "Your name is Katy? Thank you so much, Katy." To everyone else, a thumbs-up and a "Great day, great day".

Finally, against a scarlet sunset, Air Force One touched down in Louisville, Kentucky. In a square decked with 40ft American flags, to the backdrop of ragtime music, he hit the big themes: jobs, racial harmony, education for all.

Stripping off his jacket despite the rain, he leaned into the crowd while a Secret Service minder clutched at his belt from behind. He lurched towards the indentations in the sea of heads which signalled someone in a wheelchair. He stroked one child's badly-deformed face for a minute.

A little girl, screaming "Mr President, Mr President", was passed over the heads of the crowd to be embraced. "I don't believe this — it's like the Beatles," said one man, forced to climb a lamp-post by the pressure of the crowd.

Buoyed up by the adulation of the faithful, Mr Clinton must hope that this performance, repeated endlessly for the next 24 days, will also win the hearts of the hordes of undecided voters.

MIKE THEILER/REUTER

President Clinton greets supporters during a walkabout in Dayton, Ohio, a crucial battleground in next month's presidential election

Dole 'must attack on ethics'

By Ian Brodie

BOB DOLE was under intense pressure yesterday to attack President Clinton's ethics. The Republican challenger's failure to play the "character card" has caused a deep split in his camp.

With just over three weeks to the election, he will hold a critical meeting with aides today to decide whether he should try to bolster his flagging campaign by going on the offensive, and if so how harshly.

Mr Dole told a television interviewer he did not want to be remembered for waging a negative campaign. He yearned to win but there were limits and he could not see himself "getting into the mud" in the final stages of the campaign.

His running-mate, Jack Kemp, dismayed Republicans during Wednesday's vice-presidential debate when he said: "In my opinion, it is beneath Bob Dole to go after anyone personally."

With that declaration, Mr Kemp may have undercut Mr Dole's ability to raise what many consider to be legitimate questions about Mr Clinton's ethical standards and trustworthiness as they relate to abuses of power in the Whitewater affair.

Militia men held over anti-FBI plot

From Ian Brodie in Washington

THE FBI has arrested five alleged members of a militia group on charges of plotting to blow up a new centre for the FBI's fingerprint records in West Virginia.

The arrests, described by a federal official as "fairly significant", were the latest episode in the alarming growth in the United States of so-called citizen militias whose mainly white and heavily armed members hold strong anti-government and far-right views.

The five in custody yesterday were described as members of the West Virginia Mountaineer Militia, operating in the Appalachian hills west of Washington. The FBI said they had plotted to place explosives near the headquarters holding the FBI's fingerprint files and crime statistics.

The facility, costing $200 million (£130 million) was moved 250 miles from Washington to a remote valley in the Appalachians earlier this year. It will eventually have a staff of 2,600 and will house all the FBI's vast archives of criminal records.

Ray Looker, a Vietnam veteran and self-confessed leader of the Mountaineer Militia, has said he believes his constitutional rights are in jeopardy of being removed or diminished by corrupt government officials. He has also asserted that mysterious unmarked black helicopters are spying on leaders of the militia movement around the United States and that they have circled over his home near the West Virginia town of Clarksburg.

Typical of the paranoid views espoused by militia members, he claimed in a pamphlet that one million United Nations troops are stationed at American military bases and that the Government has set up 130 "concentration camps" at abandoned army bases to house law-abiding citizens.

The last major militia case was in July when federal authorities charged 12 members of an Arizona group with conspiring to blow up federal and local buildings. Prior to that, 16 members of an anti-tax group known as the Freemen surrendered peacefully after an 81-day stand-off with the FBI in Montana.

Both President Clinton and Louis Freeh, the FBI director, have raised the alarm about militia groups which are thought to be active in more than 30 states with a nationwide membership of more than 20,000.

They were suspected of being connected to last year's bombing of the federal building in Oklahoma City, but the two suspects, Timothy McVeigh and Terry Nichols, have both denied that they had any militia links.

Madonna: due to give birth on Tuesday

Paparazzi's hard labour

Los Angeles: If Versace made nappies they would have been delivered by now (Giles Whittell writes).

With 72 hours before one of the most anticipated babies in showbiz history is due, publicists for Madonna, the pop star, are refusing to give any information. Paparazzi have staked out every maternity ward in Beverly Hills although the mother-to-be is reportedly at home.

The birth will herald an unseemly race for the first photographs of Madonna and child, said to be worth up to $1 million.

Virgin birth, Magazine, page 8

Afghan conflict divides nation along ethnic lines

From Christopher Thomas in Kabul

AFGHANISTAN effectively became two countries yesterday, split along ethnic lines between Pashtuns in the south and non-Pashtuns in the north. It is a logical division of a country destroyed by tribal and linguistic hatred. However, it will not bring peace: it merely simplifies a many-sided war.

Three powerful armies have joined forces against the Taleban Islamic militia, which controls three-quarters of Afghanistan in a line running roughly from the ancient city of Herat in the west to the Khyber Pass. North of that are the Uzbek forces of General Abdul Rashid Dostum, and the Tajik army of General Ahmed Shah Masood. They have formed an alliance, together with a small but nevertheless powerful group, Hezb-i-Wahdat of the predominantly Shia Hazara tribe, concentrated in the central province of Bamiyan. The forces arrayed against Taleban are capable of dealing with any invasion.

The hostile language of Taleban leaders, who on Thursday rejected calls by the United Nations for a ceasefire, became suddenly conciliatory yesterday as they digested the implications of the new military order. It was a far cry from last week's demands for the unconditional surrender of the two generals.

Taleban and the alliance are equipped with hundreds of tonnes of munitions, fleets of tanks and artillery guns, as well as a sizeable number of helicopter gunships and some patched-up Russian fighter planes left behind when the former Soviet Union pulled out in 1989. The crucial question is whether the alliance, called the Supreme Council for the Defence of Afghanistan, will try to take Kabul.

Taleban is mostly Pashtun, the traditional rulers of Kabul and the dominant ethnic group, comprising about half the population. Its northern rivals are far more liberal. General Masood claims to favour a secular Afghanistan, although he was a member of the hardline Islamic regime toppled by Taleban.

General Dostum is anything but a religious hardliner: his men even drink. He runs a successful fiefdom that does well from trade and smuggling across the porous borders with some of the former Soviet republics. He was previously allied with General Masood in the ousted Kabul Government, but pulled out in 1994. He has not demonstrated any desire to expand his territory, which is some comfort for Taleban. Nor has he ruled out a negotiated settlement with the Islamic army.

General Masood, however, will almost certainly not let matters rest. He continued his harassment of Taleban forces yesterday near the important military airbase at Bagram, north of Kabul, and there were clashes east of the capital on the road to the Khyber. He is seeking to cut off Taleban's supply lines north of the city.

There has been no attempt to capture the airbase or infiltrate Kabul, although skirmishes last night were only 15 miles away. The United Nations and the International Committee of the Red Cross have moved some expatriate staff out of the capital.

The northern alliance said that any assault on one of them would be regarded as an attack on all. It is a military rather than a political act, but defines Afghanistan in north-south terms for the first time.

Veil of tears, Magazine, page 22

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Legal & General

French Government calls on its sharp-shooting 'Cowboy' to round up Corsican separatists

Maigret packs a Magnum

PARIS FILE
by BEN MACINTYRE

THE French Government has sent an unequivocal message to separatist guerrillas on the Mediterranean island of Corsica in the bulky and imposing shape of Jean-Louis Bruguière, the country's top and toughest anti-terrorism judge.

Appointing Judge Bruguière to investigate the bombing last weekend of the Mayor's office in Bordeaux by Corsican nationalists is an act of calculated symbolism by the French authorities, for the judge, variously nicknamed "Le Shérif", "Le Cowboy" and "Double-barrelled Bru-Bru", has built up a formidable reputation as France's most efficient and ruthless terrorist-hunter.

Corsican extremists immediately responded to Judge Bruguière's appointment by vowing to kill anyone taking part in the police clampdown promised by the French Government. But the judge, 53, is not an easy man to intimidate, having spent the past two decades tracking down French gangsters, Japanese mafia members, Middle Eastern terrorists and home-grown extremists.

Ilich Ramírez Sánchez, alias "Carlos the Jackal", the jailed guerrilla suspected of a string of terrorist attacks in the 1970s and 1980s, is only the most notorious of those with good reason to respect Judge Bruguière's tenacity. When the two old adversaries finally met two years ago after Carlos was seized in Sudan by French agents, the Venezuelan-born terrorist hailed his nemesis as "a star".

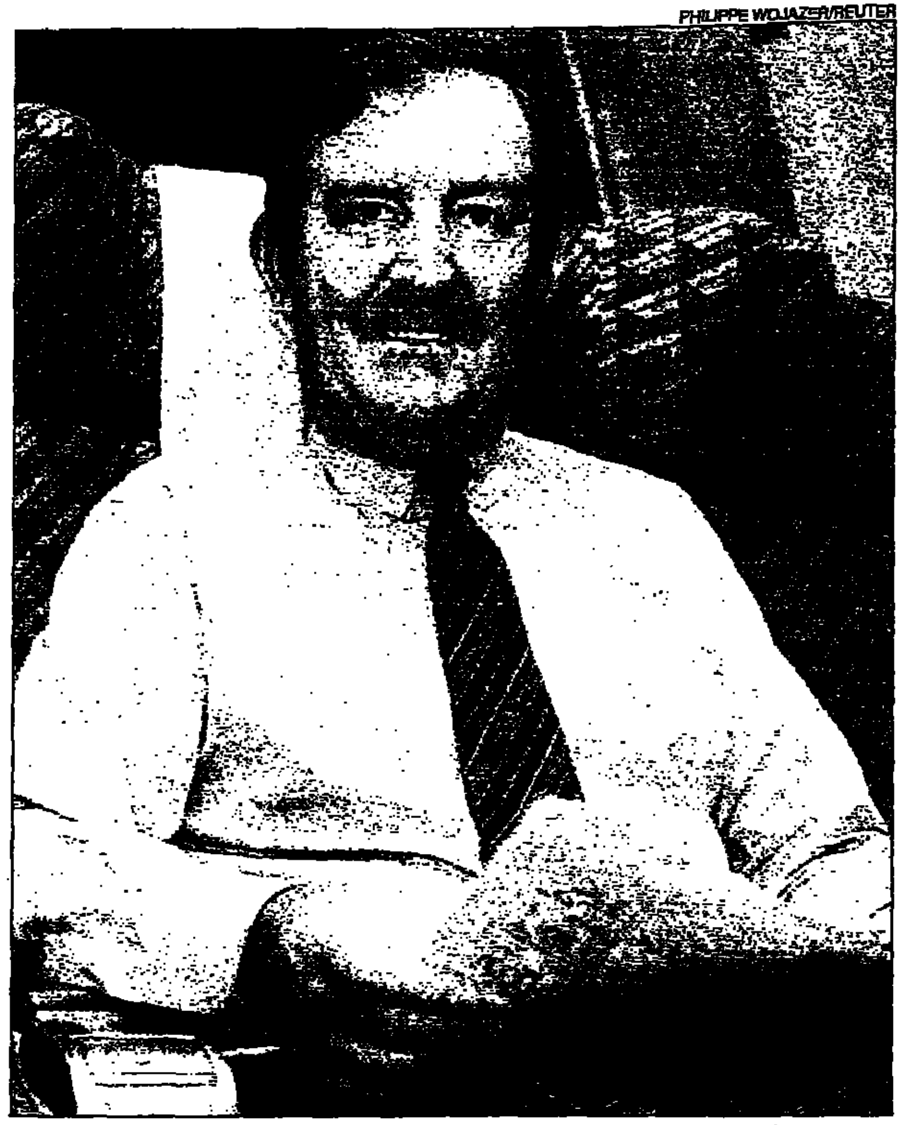
A strange mixture of Simenon's Maigret and "Dirty Harry", the heavy-jowled, pipe-smoking (or, in moments of high drama, cigar-chomping) investigator has become an almost mythical figure, beloved by the French public, loathed by the underworld and regarded with caution by his political bosses.

In 1980 he was awarded his first underworld "assassination contract" after dismantling a prostitution ring; a year later the extreme-left Action Directe group put the judge on its hit-list and in 1987 he returned home to his Paris flat to find that the police had just defused a grenade booby-trap attached to his front door.

After that he began carrying a .357 Magnum. "I'm quite a sharpshooter," he likes to tell journalists. But behind the posturing is a patient, methodical sleuth.

In 1992, during his investigation into the 1989 bombing of a French airliner in which 170 people were killed, Judge Bruguière issued arrest warrants for four Libyans, including Abdallah Senoussi, a brother-in-law of Colonel Muammar Gaddafi, the Libyan leader, and then arrived in Tripoli aboard a French warship.

He was turned away but earlier this year he was back in Libya again, this time with an armed escort of a dozen policemen and official permission to pursue his investigations. Such high-profile actions and his obstinate ways have not always endeared him to the French authorities, and some of his colleagues have accused the judge of megalomania.



PHILIPPE WOJAZER/REUTER

Jean-Louis Bruguière, France's top anti-terrorism judge, has received death threats

Envoy upset by parting gestures

Pamela Churchill Harriman, the American Ambassador to France, has once again become a focus of Paris gossip by refusing to say whether or when she will quit her post.

Last summer Mrs Harriman implied she would be departing at the end of this presidential term, a suggestion she has been playing down ever since. The Ambassador was reported to be intensely miffed when guests for an embassy party earlier this month called ahead to ask if they should bring farewell bouquets.

Franco-American relations may be under strain, but Paris remains obsessed with Mrs Harriman's exciting past, her marriages to Randolph Churchill, Leland Hayward and Averell Harriman, and her string of former lovers. In a recent book Isabelle Juppé, the wife of the Prime Minister, described her as "the queen of Paris high society".

Ex-Mayor's bid to steal the show

FOLLOWING in the dubious footsteps of Bernard Tapie, the disgraced politician turned film star, another convicted former government minister has decided to take up a thespian career.

Michel Noir, the former Mayor of Lyons sentenced twice this year for corruption, will appear in a production of Chekhov's *Uncle Vanya*, opening on Wednesday in the southern city of Aurillac.

The handsome and rakish M Noir was once a rising star in the Gaullist firmament, Trade Minister when Jacques Chirac was Prime Minister between 1986 and 1988, and widely tipped as a future presidential candidate.

His political hopes evaporated, however, when he was convicted of using city funds to finance political campaigns and for personal expenses. The former Mayor received an 18-month suspended prison sentence and was banned from elected office for five years.

In a magazine interview, M Noir quoted one of his own haiku poems to celebrate his dramatic debut: *From a red radish, the kitchen knife fashions a star.*

But critics, enraged that political disgrace seems to be a passport to fame and fortune, might rather cite a line from *Uncle Vanya*: "The land grows poorer and uglier every day."

Pope schedules foreign trips

FROM RICHARD OWEN
IN ROME

THE Pope is making a "remarkable recovery" three days after his appendix operation, his doctors said yesterday. His intestinal functions were normal, and there was no sign of fever or abdominal pain of the kind that has dogged him since last Christmas, they said.

There is still concern that the Pope's trembling left hand may be a sign that he is suffering from a form of Parkinson's disease. But despite the public advice of Professor Francesco Crucitti, who carried out the surgery, to rest more, the pontiff shows no sign of slowing down.

"The Holy Father thanks those cardinals and surgeons who tell him to rest," said Cardinal Paul Poupard, the Vatican's French "Minister of Culture", who accompanied the Pope on his visit to France last month. "Then he sends them away with an amiable smile and does what he has to do." Cardinal Castillo Lara, a senior Vatican financial official, said there had never been any doubt about the Pope's "lucid mental powers". If he ever became physically incapacitated, it was "not impossible to imagine the Pope ruling the Church from a wheelchair, just as President Roosevelt governed the United States from a wheelchair", the cardinal said.

The Pope is drawing up plans for at least five foreign trips next year, including Beirut, Prague, Paris, Rio de Janeiro and his native Poland.

The Pope arriving at hospital last Sunday

Nordic plan to counter biker war

Copenhagen: Ministers of the four Nordic nations yesterday agreed to co-ordinate police and government action against the biker gang warfare that has shattered the peace in one of Europe's most law-abiding regions (Christopher Follett writes).

The meeting was held after last weekend's missile attack on the headquarters of the Hell's Angels gang here, in which two people were killed. Denmark, Sweden, Norway and Finland also agreed to establish a register of stolen weapons, to co-operate more closely with Europol, to tighten criminal laws and to monitor and study the economy of gangs thought to be involved in racketeering.

Neo-Fascist Austrian woos Britain's Euro-sceptic wing

FROM ROGER BOYES IN BONN

THE far-right Austrian politician Jörg Haider, who is urging a delay in European Monetary Union, is poised to make a strong showing in the country's first ever European elections this weekend.

Herr Haider, a suntanned, Porsche-driving populist, is profiting from a radical shift in the national mood since June 1994 when two-thirds of Austrians voted to join the European Union. Now barely a third of Austrians say they are committed to the EU.

In part, this is because of exaggerated pre-referendum promises. The Socialists, for example, pledged that the average Austrian family would be £25 a day better off because of lower food prices and other benefits. In part, it is also because of the pain of budget cuts needed to meet the Maastricht monetary union targets.

Austrian membership of monetary union, Herr Haider said, would further squeeze an already depressed tourist industry. There was only one way forward, he said: to delay monetary union — "I would be happy if we didn't meet the criteria" — and to delay eastward enlargement of the Union.

As soon as members of his Freedom Party were in the European Parliament, he said, he would attempt to reach a common platform with British Conservatives and members of Italy's Northern League to present an anti-Maastricht bloc in Strasbourg. Talks with the British were already under way on this subject.

Herr Haider makes the liberal Vienna establishment very nervous. Franz Vranitzky, the Chancellor, urged voters to reject firmly the spectre of fascism. Among Herr Haider's many utterances was explicit praise for Hitler's employment policies. His disparaging comments about foreign workers and Bosnian refugees have helped to stir up a generally hostile, angry climate. "This is our city, it is not Istanbul," he told crowded rallies this week.

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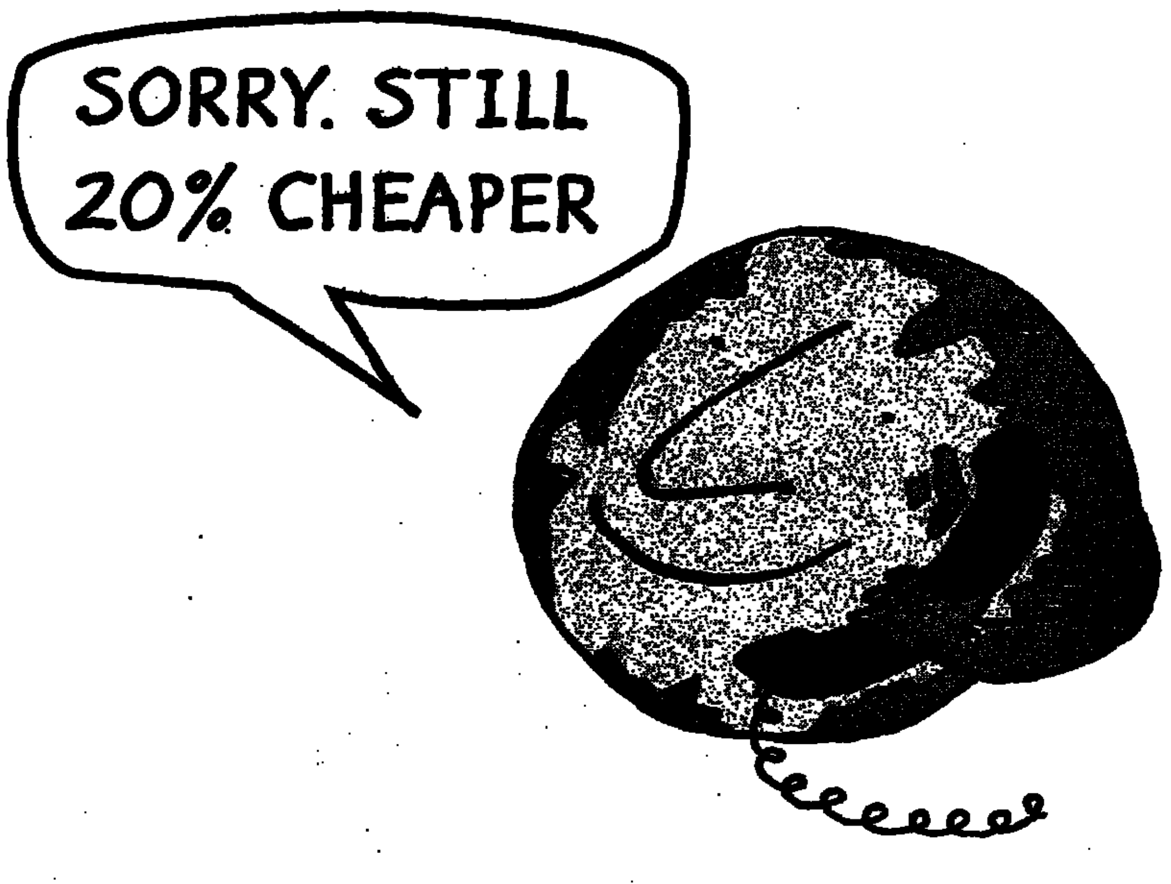

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هكذا من الأصل

هكذا من الأصل

■ OPINION

Today's disputes between priests and organists are nothing compared with those in J.S. Bach's time

■ DANCE

With the hype cleared away, Joaquin Cortes's 'rock flamenco' emerged as a very average night out

THE TIMES ARTS

■ POP

A powerful Welsh double-bill puts the Manic Street Preachers on tour with Catatonia

■ ON MONDAY

From Python to the riverbank: Terry Jones on his new film, *The Wind in the Willows*

Could you jazz it up a bit, Mr Bach?

Did you feel a sense of *déjà vu* this week? A Norfolk church choir has walked out because the vicar is choosing the sort of toddler-friendly modern hymns that make *Thomas the Tank Engine* read like Thomas Aquinas. Church choirs and organists seem to quit, or get sacked, rather regularly these days, don't they? Perhaps the Church of England should add a new festival to its calendar: Bust-Up Sunday. How might the service begin?

Vicar: O Lord, open Thou our lips.
Choir: Not likely, if you have chosen *Ping Went the String on Little David's Harp.*
Vicar: O God, save us from decrepit organists.
Choir: O Lord, spare us the tambourines.
Vicar: Go forth and rave!
(Acolytes shall turn on the strobe lighting. Spinsters shall gyrate.)
Choir: That does it. We're joining the Catholics.
Vicar: Their music is even worse.
(All shall then consult solicitors.)

In fact, punch-ups between priests and musicians are far from new. Indeed, in the 16th century there was a massive rumpus — involving Popes, bishops and every top composer — that exactly paralleled present-day arguments.

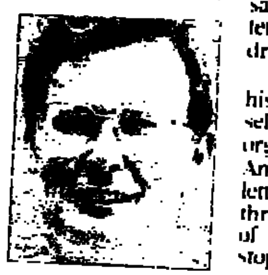
On one side were the priests, determined to stop the beautiful but complex choral music which we recognise today as a glory of the Renaissance. The priests didn't dispute its beauty, but they pointed out, not unreasonably, that the music was so complex that listeners couldn't understand a word. It could have been the latest tavern ditty, for all the congregation could tell. When they discovered that many composers actually *were* slipping tavern ditties into their masses — to show how cleverly they could conceal a well-known tune — well, they turned ecclesiastical purple with rage and demanded reformation (or, to be precise, Counter-Reformation).

Palestrina is the composer for whom I feel most sorry. As the leading Vatican tunesmith, he resolved to write a work that would not only satisfy the stroppy cardinals who demanded simplicity, but also his own sophisticated tastes. The result was a masterpiece: the *Missa Papae Marcelli*, dedicated to the Pope who decreed "primo le parole e poi la musica" (words first, music later).

Alas, Marcellus died after three weeks in the job (the Mafia, I expect), and his successor was the dreaded Paul IV. A keen supporter of the Inquisition, and no culture-vulture (he covered up the naughty bits of Michelangelo's Sistine Chapel ceiling), he promptly fired Palestrina. So much for gratitude.

But many other great composers also fell foul of the Church.

WEEK IN THE ARTS



RICHARD MORRISON

William Byrd, the supreme English composer of all time (we don't hedge our bets on this page) was regularly fined for being a Catholic, even though he was also the musical jewel of Elizabeth I's Chapel Royal. Thomas Weelkes, whose exquisite madrigals still bring tears to discerning eyes, was sacked as choirmaster of Chichester Cathedral for sustained drunkenness.

Henry Purcell was punished by his Westminster Abbey bosses for selling grandstand seats in his organ loft for the 1688 Coronation. And J.S. Bach swopped virulent letters with his employers throughout his 27 years as cantor of St Thomas, Leipzig. It didn't stop him from producing the most magnificent corpus of sacred music the world has known. In fact he wrote the *St Matthew Passion* in the very year when his salary was cut. I suppose this confirms the popular theory that the proper way to nurture creative genius is to let it starve in a garret.

The irony about the present dispute between English priests and choirs is that it reverses the last civil war, in the early 19th century. Then it was the choirs who were clinging to their viols and clarinets, which they scraped and tootled in noisy anarchy; while the priests were primly determined to impose decorum and introduce new-fangled organs. (It is all delightfully captured in Thomas Hardy's *Under the Greenwood Tree*.) Today it is the choirs who wish to preserve the organ and the decorum, while the priests want to send in the pop bands and loosen things up.

This is a fascinating sociological struggle, even for those who never set foot in church, because it has less to do with religion than with the ethics of change. It touches on a dilemma that continually torments modern Britain: how far can we overhaul much-loved but wrinkly institutions without destroying their souls?

I have some sympathy with the young priests. Imagine how they are briefed by their bishops: "Right, I'm giving you a nice, difficult inner-city parish, high unemployment, massive school truancy, muggings nightly. Go and convert these people! And by the way, your chief liturgical tool will be a choir that just *loves* to sing 16th-century Latin motets." Well, the word "irrelevant" does spring to mind, doesn't it?

But consider this. A hard-nosed record company, Warner Classics, recently asked people what sort of music gave them a "spiritual uplift in a material world". Then, using the results, it issued a CD of choral music called *Agnus Dei*. It has soared straight to No 1 in the classical charts. So what's on it? You can probably guess. Lashings of Palestrina, Bach, Allegri, Mozart . . . and not a happy-clappy chorus in earshot. The old devils still seem to have the best tunes.

DEE CONWAY

"Rock'n'roll flamenco, bathed in high-tech lighting and accompanied by ear-splitting sound": Joaquin Cortes struts his stuff

Sex on a schtick

DANCE: **Debra Craine** is less than impressed by the over-hyped Joaquin Cortes and his flamenco

The hype merchants were hard at work in advance of Joaquin Cortes's arrival at the Albert Hall. "The glittering pagan Spanish sex god," screamed the press releases; the charismatic dance star who single-handedly revolutionised flamenco, opined a fawning BBC TV documentary; the smouldering Latin lover who promised to excite our blood with his presence on stage.

After a build-up like that we were expecting an amalgam of Valentino and Nureyev, with a dash of the veteran Spanish dancer Antonio Gades thrown in. What did we get? A dancer of modest talent and immodest pretension desperately trying to stretch his artistic resources into a two-hour show designed to rival those of Madonna and Michael Jackson.

Not that we saw much of Cortes anyway. For all the attention this Cordoba gypsy garners, he does not hog the stage in *Gypsy Passion*. Cortes is supported by three leading dancers, an ensemble of 11 women and a 14-piece band of musicians and singers. By the time they have all had their moment in the spotlight, there isn't much room left for him.

After a suitably dramatic entrance, his bare chest gleaming as his slim ponytailed figure struts through the audience and on to the stage, Cortes fails to capitalise on the initial buzz. Gradually, he lets the show slip away from him, forcing himself to work ever harder to raise the temperature.

Classical ballet, modern dance and jazz all find a place in Cortes's vision of rock'n'roll flamenco, bathed in flashy high-tech lighting and accompanied by ear-splitting sound. But, along with the hair combs and castanets, Cortes has also jettisoned the pride and integrity of true flamenco.

His overblown solos find him straining to flesh out flimsy movement ideas into substantial phrases, only to reveal that the vocabulary isn't there, despite the fact that, as a classically trained dancer, he has a wealth of material to draw upon. His ferocious footwork — the heart of flamenco — is delivered with ludicrous egotistic embellishment; even his scorching sensuality turns out to be rather feeble.

Cristobal Reyes, Cortes's uncle, fares better, although we have seen more impressive performances from him with Cumbre Flamenca. Marco Berriel adds classical grace to the proceedings, although Berriel's duet of death with Cortes is a bombastic piece of cod homoeroticism.

The music, by Pepe "El Montoyita" and Juan Parrilla, is also updated, incorporating salsa as well as jazz influences into its flamenco base and adding violins, flutes and a double bass to the traditional Spanish guitars. The musicians are wonderful, as are the singers, although it is an insult to the power of Charo Manzano and Ana Reyes's keening vocals that someone thought it necessary to mike them (badly). Giorgio Armani provided the chic costumes.

The underdog's chance to hwyl

POP

Manic Street Preachers/ Catatonia
Southampton

OPENING a double bill of passionate Welsh rock at the Guildhall, Catatonia gave able support to their more famous countrymen. Although they have just released their polished debut album *Way Beyond Blue*, this Cardiff quintet are older than many of their more established pop peers and consequently bring extra emotional depth and complexity to the often lightweight Indie genre.

Most of their songs are magnificent edifices, all chiming peaks and voluptuous curves, although their secret weapon is undoubtedly their charismatic singer Cerys Williams. With a gritty voice as distinctive as Björk's, she breathed earthy, lusty life into a short set of crafted guitar ballads that otherwise might have sounded too slick.

Catatonia departed to polite, muted applause. Which was perhaps inevitable, since most of the disaffected hordes at Southampton were clearly there for the Manics alone. Such was their fevered anticipation that a substantial congregation began singing along before the band even arrived, supplying terrace-chant accompaniment to the orchestral arrangement of *A Design For Life* which prefaced the group's arrival.

Meanwhile, a vast screen behind the stage beamed out stark images of class war spliced with provocative quotes from Marx, Orwell, Sartre and others. From most bands this would be intellectual window dressing, but the Manics have come to signify something deeper, a pride in working-class education and a cultured dignity which stridently defies the swaggering hedonism of traditional rock'n'roll. In this respect, they are the absolute antithesis of Oasis, despite having played down the bill to the Mancunian megastars several times in recent months.

Although songs which namecheck Sylvia Plath and Harold Pinter might suggest a dangerously pretentious bent, the Manics delivered a bruisingly powerful set. The respectability of consistent chart success and their recent Mercury Music Prize nomination have not blunted the Welsh trio's muscular attack one iota, nor has the ominous disappearance of their former guitarist Richey Edwards curtailed their upward arc from punky outsiders to supremely confident existential rockers.

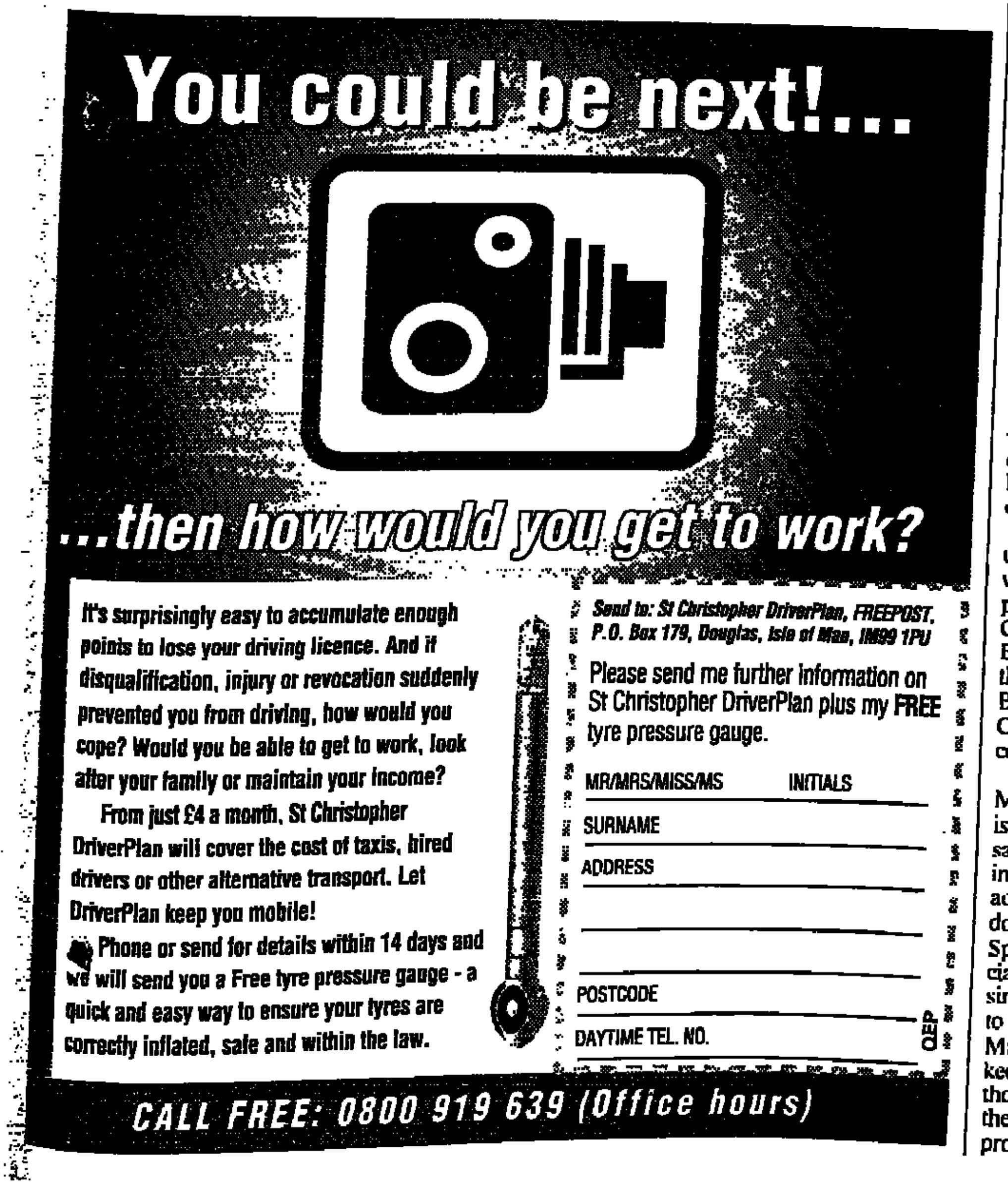
Most of their songs are relentlessly tragic in mood. Solitude, despair and man's inhumanity to man are recurring motifs, as in the band's current single *Kevin Carter*, which commemorates a press photographer who committed suicide after witnessing the genocide in Rwanda.

But, perversely, these cathartic numbers provided the show's most potent and uplifting moments, transcending the earnest A-level angst of their lyrics with soaringly anthemic grandeur. No other band could inspire mass outbreaks of frenzied dancing with songs about Nazi death camps, but the Manics possess enough moral authority and robust self-belief to carry off such bizarre feats.

Indeed, it was only when they shrugged off their doomy gravitas and began acting like more orthodox rock groups that they seemed to falter. The latter half of their set was peppered with weaker tunes from their youth, such as *Motown Junk* and *You Love Us*, naive two-chord sketches which only served to prove beyond doubt that the Manics were never destined to be a party band.

This is the paradox at the heart of the Manic Street Preachers. They manage to make emotional numbness sound desperately passionate, fatalism feel heroically positive and turn savage alienation into a communal bond. This makes them not just unique but a hugely compelling spectacle.

STEPHEN DALTON



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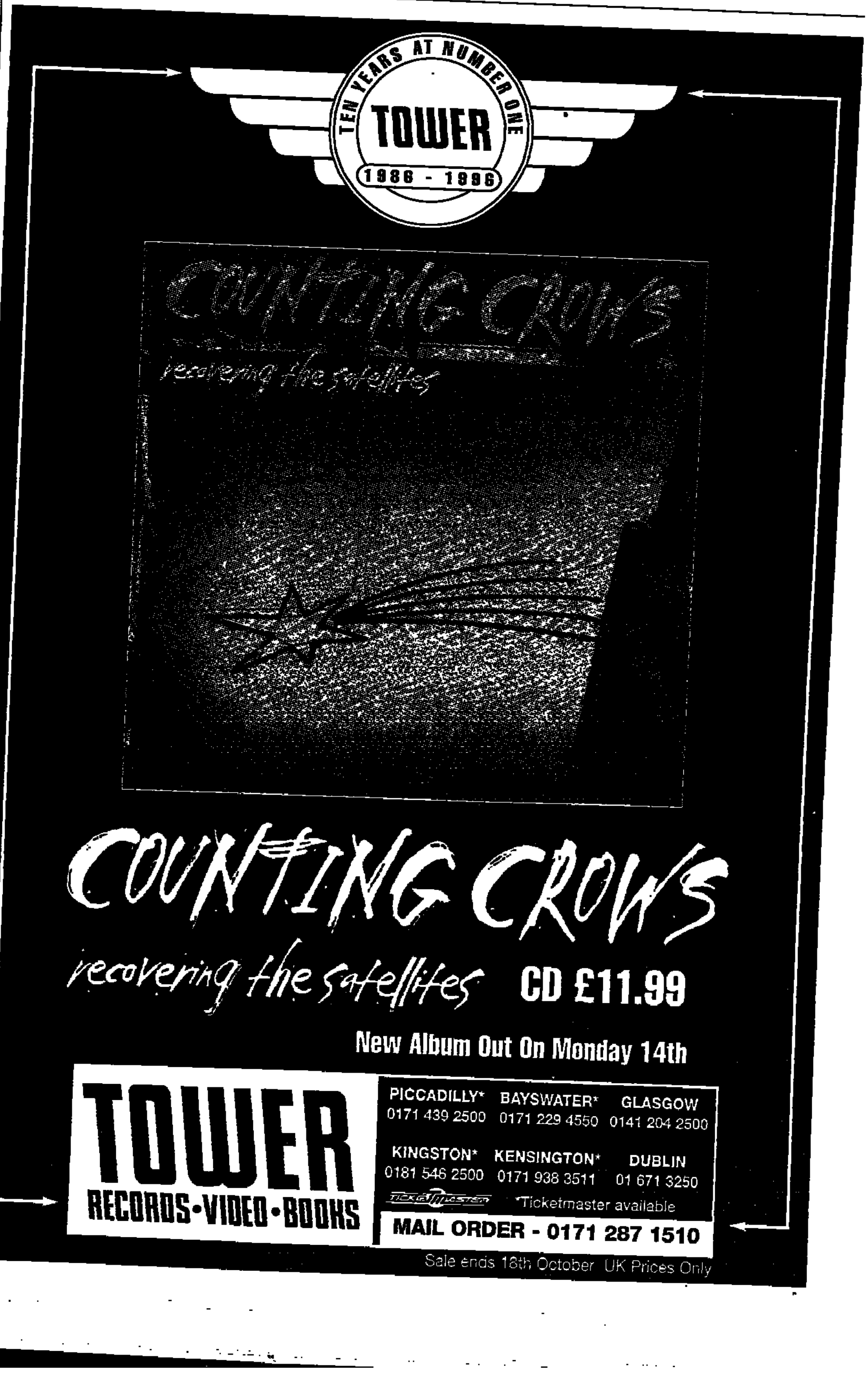

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Heirs of the Tory sages fight it out

Powell, Macleod and Heath still divide the party, says **Robert Shepherd**

On February 13, 1957, Enoch Powell, then a rising star at the Treasury, set down his thoughts on the Tory party's future in a letter to Iain Macleod, the Cabinet minister who had just taken charge of reviewing Tory policy in the wake of Eden's resignation as Prime Minister over Suez. In a juxtaposition that was to become his trademark, Powell appealed to logic whileasserting a romantic nationalism. "The courage to act rationally will flow from the courage to see things as they are," he declared. "The Tory party has to find patriotism again, and to find it, as of old, in this 'England'."

Almost 40 years later, with the Tories again in deep trouble, echoes of Powell's post-Suez prescription have been heard from a trio of Euro-sceptic former ministers on the conference fringe at Bournemouth: Lord Tebbit, Norman Lamont and John Redwood. The tide of opinion among constituency parties and parliamentary candidates is running strongly in their favour, despite yesterday's impressive display of unity in the conference hall. But the battle for the soul of the party reflects a longer struggle between competing Tory traditions. These traditions matter, for they reflect politicians' core beliefs and explain why they may suddenly erupt, as Kenneth Clarke did recently over the single currency.

The main post-war Conservative traditions are personified by Enoch Powell, Iain Macleod and Sir Edward Heath. All three first entered the Commons in 1950 and were among the nine founding members of the "One Nation" group. They agreed on the need for a distinctively Tory social policy, but a faultline on Europe soon appeared.

In June 1950, Heath devoted his maiden speech to supporting Churchill's call for Britain to join in planning the European Coal and Steel Community — forerunner of the EEC, the EC and today's EU. Powell, however, was among six imperialists who defied the Tory whip. "It was my first act as a Euro-sceptic," Powell later claimed. In fact, having renounced the Empire in 194, he was to support Britain's abortive attempts to join the EEC in the 1960s before his return to the Euro-sceptic fold in 1969.

Later in the 1950s, a major faultline also emerged in Tory economic policy. At the Treasury, Powell was a key player in the Tories' first post-war monetarist experiment during 1957-58. Macleod led the counter-attack in Macmillan's Cabinet that culminated in the resignation of the entire Treasury team, while Heath, as Chief Whip, had to manage the ensuing crisis. Defeat for the monetarists confirmed the centrist direction of Tory economic and social policy, which took credit for Macmillan's 1959 landslide victory.

Of the three, Heath eventually rose to become Prime Minister and took Britain into the EEC in 1973. Today his technocratic politics and belief in European federalism are virtually eclipsed in his own party — *pace* the Deputy Prime Minister, Michael Heseltine. But despite Macleod's untimely death in 1970 and Powell's departure from the Tory benches in 1974, the most interesting debate among today's Tories is between their heirs.

Both Powell and Macleod wanted the Tories to become a radical and truly national party that appealed across the old class divisions. Hence their anger in 1963 when the aristocratic Douglas-Home became Prime Minister instead of the great post-war Tory moderniser, "Rab" Butler. Powell advocated economic liberalism and, from the mid-1960s, an increasingly nationalistic stance on immigration, defence and Europe. His coming out against the EEC was fateful, since his nationalist heirs have steadily superseded the old Commonwealth lobby to become the dominant force among Euro-sceptics.

By contrast, Macleod proposed economic intervention and social liberalism, while envisaging the creation of a dynamic economy through tax reform (a goal echoed in Chris Patten's espousal of the economics of the Asian "tigers"). As an internationalist, Macleod believed passionately in Britain's role in the Commonwealth, the Atlantic Alliance and Europe. John Major and Malcolm Rifkind are closest to this tradition.

A further distinction between Powell and Macleod reflects the 18th-century division between court and country, which cut across Whig and Tory loyalties. Court politicians set their sights on winning and holding office. Their country counterparts were suspicious of the corrupting influence of power and were natural backbenchers. Whereas Macleod saw politics as being about getting things done in office, Powell is essentially a country Tory.

Powellism, marrying market economics with nationalism, was a precursor of Thatcherism — although Powell's anti-Americanism and his denunciation of nuclear deterrence were anathema to the Iron Lady. But Margaret Thatcher, at any rate until she was deposed in 1990, was always more court than country. That is why her reign lasted so long. Indeed, it was Macleod as Shadow Chancllor in 1965 who gave Mrs Thatcher her first big break by insisting that she should become his deputy, and he was soon suggesting that the Tories might one day choose a woman leader. Powell first realised that Mrs Thatcher's instincts would be overruled by her ambition for office in 1978 when she voiced the fear of being "swamped" by immigration but then avoided repeating this taboo word.

> If they lose, the Tories may well follow Powellite instincts

Today, the issue of Europe has a new urgency because of the Franco-German drive towards a single currency. The stakes are high. Europe could split the Conservative Party as catastrophically as Corn Law reform in 1846 or tariff reform in the early 1900s.

Macleod's approach offers a way forward. He was what might be termed a pro-European sceptic, tempering support for British membership with shrewd political judgment. Recognising that most Britons were reluctant Europeans, he saw the need to keep party and people in step. Before the 1970 election, he privately favoured a referendum on British entry to the EEC. Heath spurned the idea, and went in anyway. Labour later took it up and in 1974, with Powell's support, defeated Heath.

Today's Cabinet compromise on the single currency — keeping options open but promising a referendum before joining the euro — reflects Macleod's pragmatic approach. But if, as seems increasingly likely, the Tories lose the next election, there will be intense pressure to follow Powellite instincts. The Tories, however, must avoid becoming the new country party, banging the patriotic drum and offering simple nostrums but locked in permanent opposition. They will do well to remember that without office they can do nothing.

The author has written biographies of Iain Macleod and, most recently, Enoch Powell (both published by Hutchinson).

We have been slow to celebrate our greatest contemporary artist, says **Rachel Campbell-Johnston**

Francis Bacon and the meaning of life

Towards the end of the 1950s, rumours began to leak to the outside world that a nest of bibulous painters had been uncovered in Soho. A squadron of critics dashed to the scene, cordoning off Wheeler's and the Colony Room, corralling Michael Andrews and Frank Auerbach, Lucian Freud and Francis Bacon into a so-called School of London.

But although the label served its purpose in some ways, focusing attention away from the abstract art of America and towards the figurative painting that was going on in England, it was a misleading one. The artistic explosion had already occurred, launching each of the painters on his separate trajectory. And of these, none was to prove more powerful or individualistic than Francis Bacon.

Bacon's talent was marked by an imperious solitude. Lucian Freud once described him as the wildest and wisest person he had ever known. Bacon himself said in an interview that he had flouted conventional standards, working on his character to make himself as unnatural as he possibly could.

When an artist pours his talent as much into his life as his art, biography becomes an important means of understanding the work. Bacon's painting — more than that of any other artist of his generation — is illuminated by accounts of his life. Of the handful of biographies that have been published since his death in 1992, Michael Peppiatt's *Anatomy of an Enigma*, which has been serialised in *The Times* this week, is the most serious and comprehensive.

Bacon did not start painting in earnest until the relatively late age of 35. It was only through his life, he said, that he found his subjects. Among the formative influences were his upbringing, virtually without formal education, in Irish country houses; the decadence of urban life in Paris and Berlin; his drinking, gambling and almost sado-masochistic homosexuality.

But simple correlations between life and art are always reductive, and never more so than in Bacon's case. His central philosophy was that man is an accident who plays out the game of existence without reason. He dedicated himself to futility with an almost religious fervour. But since life for him seemed in essence so banal, he thought that he might as well make some sort of grandeur of it.

"I am greedy for life . . . for what chance can give me far beyond anything I can calculate logically," he once said. As a young man staying in Monte Carlo he ended up one night winning £1,600 at the casino. This was then an enormous amount. But Bacon did not believe in making provision for the future. He used the money instead to take a villa which he stocked with wine and food and friends. Ten days later he had scarcely enough money to buy a ticket back to London.

His attitude to painting was similarly volatile. "All art," he said, "has now become completely a game by which man distracts himself." He shrugged off critics who sought to find in his work allegories of 20th-century life. Rather, he was determined to preserve "the vitality of accident", to create images "with the foam of the unconscious" locked around them. Hurling fistfuls of paint at his canvases, sweeping them with rags, pitching turpentine over their surfaces, he allowed each image to grow spontaneously.

As he attacked and brutalised human appearance, mashing and twisting it in bruised hues, Bacon tried to escape illustrational aspects of the image and evoke instead a "brutality of fact". His aim, to use Valéry's words, was "to give the sensation without the boredom of conveyance". He sought to "unlock the valves of feeling" so that the onlooker would return to life more violently and more poignantly.

An example of this was Bacon's discovery in Paris of a hand-coloured book of buccal diseases which lies behind his fascination with the open, screaming mouth. He wanted to paint its glittering colours, he said, with all the shimmering beauty with which Monet painted landscapes. He was haunted by the images of Muybridge's photographs, and they became a source of ideas. His passion for the Old Masters of Flanders, Spain and Italy can be traced in many of his paintings. And the Greek tragedian Aeschylus was an inspiration to him — he always regretted not being able to read the *Oresteia* in the original. "The reek of human blood is laughter to my heart," was one of the lines he liked to quote, and became a focus for his themes.

Ultimately it is the visceral beauty of the paintings that matters. This year Paris seized the initiative, staging the first large-scale retrospective of Bacon's work since his death. It has attracted some 5,000 visitors a day. Although Peppiatt's biography is a welcome addition to the body of work on our greatest contemporary artist, we have been too tardy in celebrating modern British genius.

Sue us, Your Majesties

The time has come for the Royal Family to defend itself in court

Simon Jenkins

The only truths in a newspaper are births, marriages and deaths. All else is distortion. There is no other way to get the facts to fit the page. And there is no distortion like a tabloid story about the Royal Family. So competitive has this market become that mendacity is precision engineering.

Last Thursday, Lord Wakeham, the chairman of the Press Complaints Commission, wrote to *The Times* to criticise newspapers after *The Sun*'s "Di-and-Hewitt" hoax and the *Express*'s "Prince Wills in love" story. He deplored them, though not by name. Lord Wakeham deplores as an intransitive verb. When faced with tabloid excess, his predecessor, Lord McGregor of Durris, would summon the television cameras and expostulate with rage. Lord Wakeham is hangdog. He deplores like a Wild West sheriff who knows he has no gun and no lock on the jailhouse door. He deplores with a dying fall.

The first subject of his lamentation purported to be secret video footage of the Princess of Wales and her lover prancing in their underclothes at the window of Highgrove some years ago. The video was not sourced. Publication was justified by *The Sun* on the hilarious, and untypically long-winded, grounds that "any embarrassment our action may cause to Diana is tiny compared to the satisfaction she will feel in knowing that she was right all along about the dirty tricks". The *Express* story was almost as implausible. Fourteen-year-old Prince William was said to be infatuated with a 17-year-old marquess's daughter in Scotland and to be "bombarding her" with love letters. Both stories were later admitted to be wholly false.

Most readers will be baffled at how grown men (and women) can concoct, process and print such rubbish. Let us give the culprits a hearing. Newspapers are in the business of oddity, of tales of the strange, the shocking, the scandalous in high places. Like Mrs Mopp over the garden fence, we say "No . . . I can't believe it . . . You don't really mean THAT . . ." and yearn for it to be true. Only those who know the inside of an editorial office can imagine the pressure on executives to believe a good story, cut corners and get it into print.

Three guardians stand between a newspaper and the sort of fiasco which last week hit *The Sun*. One is the journalist's instinct for accuracy, good taste and kindness to small children. These days, *requiescat in pace*. The second guardian is the law of libel. This may be costly but is no paper tiger. The third is Lord Wakeham and his Press Complaints Commission.

Lord Wakeham is a backstop to the press's code of practice on privacy, a code that is not supported by statute. Four years ago the then minister David Mellor warned the press that it was "drinking in the Last Chance Saloon". Fleet Street must stop intruding on personal privacy or the Government would act. Shortly afterwards Mr Mellor's body was found convulsed in the dust, full of tabloid lead. His successors, Peter Brooke and Stephen Dorrell, were understandably more tentative. Nothing was done.

This week Lord Wakeham has been asked by a new Secretary of State, Virginia Bottomley, to prepare "new measures". He pleaded this week for a "new way forward in strengthening self-regulation". He promised that the press "will rise to this new challenge", contriving not to choke on his words. Nothing will be done. There are too many elections about.

Britain's newspapers are an admirable example of what ministers have been boasting about in Bournemouth this week. They are a slimmed-down, productive and competitive industry. They need no subsidy and beg no protection. They are there to kill or be killed. Lord Wakeham is the industry's sole regulator, and as far as privacy is concerned, his press code of practice is his sole weapon.

In my view, the code has been reasonably successful. Its rules for legitimate whistle-blowing — against crime, antisocial behaviour and hypocrisy — have given both public and private individuals a measure of protection. The press is kinder now than a decade ago to the children of politicians, to the sick and to the grief-stricken. The change is not seismic, but has been marked. By definition, the public never sees a newspaper exercising self-restraint.

But one institution has enjoyed no protection from the code: the Royal Family. The reason is that the royal saga is a market phenomenon that at present defies regulation. It is the industry's seam of gold, a product guaranteed to sell worldwide and for astonishing sums of money. Few British readers will realise the voracity of the global appetite for Royal Family stories. Magazines in a dozen languages are devoted to it. A Royal Family headline will boost street sales from Los Angeles to Lusaka, from Nice to Nagasaki. Two paragraphs will syndicate for a thousand pounds. A good picture will go for tens of thousands.

Lord Wakeham's tut-tutting will have no impact on this business. Nor would any law on privacy. Royal stories are to the tabloids what cocaine is to the Colombian economy. They are a commercial necessity. My colleague Brian MacArthur noted this week that *The Sun* increased its Saturday sale last month by 100,000 merely by printing a cobbled "spoiler" about the Duchess of York. This was to preempt some rubbish in the *Daily Mirror* about her mystic consultant, rubbish which itself was sold round the world. Even if British newspapers withdrew every reporter and photographer from the ratpack, a dozen foreign freelances would take their place.

Can nothing be done? Even the most prominent public figures are entitled to some privacy. No matter if they court fame, invite publicity, parade their most intimate secrets before the world, they are still entitled to lives as free from psychological as from physical assault. Respect for personal dignity — as important as respect as for personal privacy — should not be proportionate to fame or even exhibitionism. If parents seem unconcerned about the happiness of their children, that does not exonerate the press from such concern.

Lord Wakeham is the custodian of these entitlements. In his *Times* letter he protests that he is hogtied in deploring intrusion because the Royal Family does not like to complain. Without a complaint his commission's "process of investigation" cannot begin. Yet later in his letter he warns the press that the commission "has powers to raise its own complaints when it needs to — and will not hesitate to use them". Both statements cannot be true. The first looks like an excuse and the second an empty threat.

The commission is simply too feeble to help the Royal Family. But the family does have one redress. It has long believed that suing newspapers is beneath its dignity. It does not need the money, and the humiliation of appearance in court would aggravate the harm of a libel. This is usually a sound principle. I say, never sue. Threaten, cajole, plead, whinge, but never sue. It is never worth the pain even if it is sometimes worth the cost. A nasty story in the press is an accident, an act of God. It is best "got over" as soon as possible.

But in the case of the Royal Family I am not sure this is wise. As Elton John and a number of politicians discovered in the 1980s, juries will treat libel as a proxy for privacy and award big damages, in effect deterring the press from continuing harassment. Elton John's £1 million in 1988 gave him remarkable media protection. Those who win big libel cases erect round themselves a magnetic field, repelling intrusion.

At present the press believes it can print what it likes about the Royal Family because the rewards are huge and there is little risk in not checking facts. The royals do not retaliate. Experience suggests that the agony and indignity which this licence inflicts must outweigh the dignity of avoiding litigation. When lies are written about them, the Royal Family should hit back with a vengeance. There should be blood on the Law Courts floor. A few stunning settlements and Fleet Street would go more carefully across this enticing terrain.

Besides, the time has surely come for the Royal Family to share in the profits of an industry to which they supply the raw material. Politicians used to boast that Lord Beaverbrook educated their children. Perhaps we have a new way to supplement the Civil List.

Diana and the press pack: litigation must be better than continuing lies and humiliation

Opera then

DAVID HOCKNEY and the opera world are to part. So disaffected is the artist with the way his time is "wasted" by opera companies that he is to abandon his much-praised career as a production designer. Top of his blacklist is the Royal Opera House.

"I've drawn a line under opera designing," he says in the November issue of *BBC Music magazine*. "I always end up saying the same thing to the people that run opera: you're satisfied with the third-rate because you compare it with the sixth-rate; you're pleased because you can point to something worse and see that it isn't quite as bad as that. What about thinking of the first-rate for a change? It's often only a little extra, but they're not hungry for quality, even when it comes to them on a plate."

Hockney on his set for *The Rake's Progress* at Glyndebourne

Hockney says he will now restrict himself to painting — his new subject is the flora of Los Angeles — but Nicholas Payne, director of the Royal Opera, has hopes of luring him back.

"There is something magical about his work, but he probably has a point. The trouble for any solitary artist when you come into the murky world of opera is that it is a collaborative process and you have to compromise. I can see how that must be a terrible torment."

● *More trouble looms for the Royal Family. Yesterday Kitty Kelley finally delivered the typescript of her book about them. Kelley started out just writing about the Duke of Edinburgh. Then the book's scope grew and grew, and its deadline was put back farther and farther. For the likely content, the royal minders might care to read Kelley's knifing of Frank Sinatra, which is said to have turned the singer's eyes from blue to a blazing red, or her vicious reputation-wrecker on Nancy Reagan.*

THE TIMES DIARY

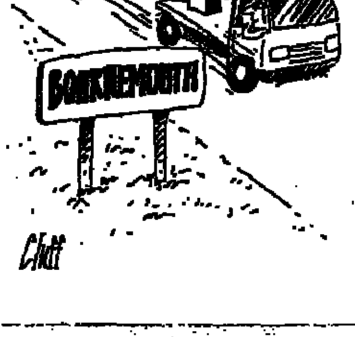
Ripping yarn

EVERYONE'S favourite nobody, Tara Palmer-Tomkinson, was nearly 20 minutes late at the Cambridge Union on Thursday night to propose the motion: "This House Would Dress for Success." She had been dressing. It had taken her an inordinately long time, she explained, to squeeze into her G-string and breathtakingly tight gold ballgown, which she called her "gold condom dress".

After some heckling, she skipped to the highlight of her speech, a story of how she had split her dress at a party given by Imran and Jemima Khan for the première of the film *Emma*. "I had to rush off to the ladies and have myself sewn back in," said Miss P-T. "I wish I had a lady-in-waiting full-time."

Buckle down

WHEN I bumped into Lord Strathclyde, the Tory Chief Whip in the Lords, at the Bournemouth conference, his shoes caught my eye. To the untrained, the large gold buckles spoke of Gucci loafers, an odd European touch in so British a figure. "New & Lingwood," he told me almost apologetically. "I bought them because I hate polishing my shoes, so I thought that if I wore ones with a shiny gold buckle people would be distracted from seeing how filthy the shoes were. Sadly, once their eye has been drawn to the buckle, they tend to inspect the rest of my shoes when before they wouldn't have even looked down there at all."

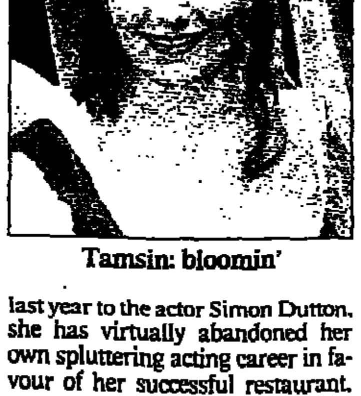


● *Consolation from Lord Tebbit for those on the Tory Right torn between party loyalty and a longing for election defeat and a sceptical realignment. "It's happened before," he says. "I woke up on the night of the 1972 election after this terrible nightmare. Wilson had won. Finally I got back to sleep then a couple of hours later I woke up sweating again. I'd had another nightmare. Ted Heath had won."*

Resting

FRIENDS of Tamsin Olivier, daughter of the late Lord Olivier, tells me she is now pregnant. Since her costume marriage in June of last year to the actor Simon Dutton, she has virtually abandoned her own spluttering acting career in favour of her successful restaurant, The Engineer, in north London.

Neither her agent nor staff in the restaurant, however, have seen her for some time now. She has disappeared off into the country with her husband, doubtless to contemplate their forthcoming production.



Tamsin: bloomin'

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A TALE OF TWO LEADERS

Personalities versus policies in the months ahead

Over the past fortnight, two men have found their voice. In Blackpool, Tony Blair delivered a grandiloquent oration with confidence and verve. In Bournemouth yesterday, John Major gave a more modest, down-to-earth and endearing speech with self-possession and ease. The contrast could hardly have been greater: as the parties' policies are seen to converge, the choice between the two men and their voices may become the biggest election issue.

Mr Major's speech was a clear sign that the Tories will fight Labour on the centre ground. A pledge to increase spending on the NHS in real terms for each of the next five years and new plans to help the long-term unemployed back to work are both policies that might have sprung from new Labour. Indeed the spending promise outflanked Gordon Brown from the Left.

The convergence between the two parties is summed up by the Conservatives' conference slogan this year: Opportunity for All. The words could as comfortably have appeared above the stage in Blackpool as in Bournemouth. "Opportunity" is traditionally associated with the Tories, but it is a word that Labour used again and again last week. "For All" are normally Labour's words, but the Conservatives are trying to appropriate them: they appeared this week in Mr Major's own handwriting. In Blackpool, almost every speaker talked of Labour standing up for "the many", while the Tories governed for "the few". This charge Mr Major personally rejected yesterday.

The floating voters of the Centre need Tory attention. But the strategy has its risks too. Conservatives have been infuriated by the way in which Mr Blair has tacked his party to the right. They fear that their disillusioned voters will now see Labour as moderate and safe enough to support. If the Tories are tacking to the left towards Labour, they will reinforce the message that, in central economic policy areas, there is little to choose between the two parties.

There is certainly a much bigger difference between the two men. It was this point that Mr Major was at pains to emphasise yesterday. He painted himself as the man of the people, someone who had known poverty, who had attended grammar school, who had worked his way up from "two rooms in Brixton" to 10 Downing Street. In one of the odder political inversions of recent years, it is a Labour leader who is now portrayed as a public-school toff, a member of the chattering classes, a man who has known nothing but a comfortable life. If snobbery is no longer allowed in John Major's classless society, inverted snobbery has been given a free rein.

Neither man chose his background: both men, however, have developed their own personalities. Mr Blair has made himself a strong leader; he has dragged his party, sometimes kicking and screaming, exactly where he has wanted it to go. He is audacious, occasionally reckless, and in Blackpool he came close to taking the purple mantle of a prophet. Mr Major is cautious and understated, a leader who tacks and weaves to keep his party intact. His activists warmly applauded his modesty and humanity yesterday. His promise to be there with them, "north, south, east and west", during the election campaign summed up a style that inspires troops by doing, not saying, by mucking in with them, not leading from the hill above.

Voters will decide which they prefer. They will have plenty of opportunity for future examination. Politics seems set to become more personal in the months ahead. This is a fair game. The experience of the past two Tory leaders has illustrated how profoundly the character of Prime Ministers stamps itself upon the success or otherwise of their administrations.

It can be a rough game too. The Tory advertising will have to be both loud and rough. But Mr Major, whose insults flew pretty low yesterday, might remember that decency is one of the traits that the British people like in him.

MALAN GOES FREE

A good verdict for the reputation of South Africa

The acquittal of Magnus Malan, South Africa's former Defence Minister, and those accused with him of masterminding the massacre of 13 black women and children in 1987, is a verdict that will enhance South Africa's reputation overseas for maturity and stability. That a judge should be free to deliver a verdict so politically unpopular, and that President Mandela should immediately endorse the decision of the court as final, is a tribute to the courage and independence of the judiciary. It is also clear evidence that South Africa has resisted popular pressure for lynch-mob retribution against those associated with the apartheid years.

Nevertheless, within South Africa the verdict is intensely controversial, and may yet inflame passions in a way deeply damaging to stability and race relations. The Inkatha Freedom Party and the National Party are relieved: many Afrikaners saw the indictment of General Malan as an ominous sign that thousands associated with the former regime were now liable to hounding through the courts.

The reaction from the African National Congress, however, is likely to be explosive. There is little concept among radical politicians of *sub judice* rules, and the indictments of General Malan and top military officers were taken as guilty verdicts, prompting ANC satisfaction and extensive comment. This judicial reversal has therefore come as a shock, and is bound to lead to accusations again Mr Justice Jan Hugo personally, and against what is seen as apartheid-era domination of the legal system.

There is a widespread feeling in the ANC — and not only in that party — that wicked things were done directly by members of the apartheid Government. The tight control of affairs at the top must have meant that senior figures had full knowledge of, or gave tacit approval for, killings and widespread human rights abuses. Between 1990 and 1994 the National Party had plenty of time to destroy all evidence linking its politicians with such deeds. It is therefore exceptionally difficult now to mount a credible case in a court of law as the crucial evidence is missing. This will only increase the ANC's frustration that murderers and torturers seem to be escaping retribution.

One effect of the verdict may be to put more backbone into the members of the Truth Commission, which has been investigating the apartheid years in a somewhat desultory and amateur manner. The Commission has lacked bite, and has often floundered during hearings of former politicians, some of whom have freely admitted errors and moral culpability. It may now feel that with the judicial avenue for retribution unpromising, it has a more urgent responsibility to name names and secure evidence of wrongdoing.

General Malan has, sensibly, thanked President Mandela for the chance to prove his innocence in court. He should also thank him for his clear attempt to uphold the courts' shaky authority. For if the ANC reaction leads to widespread unrest, many a judge will now prefer to take an easier line and bow to the political mood.

LEGENDS OF SPORT

What Sir Colin can do for Prime Minister and country

Winning is fun. So is talking about winning. As so often, the Prime Minister was at his warmest and most enthusiastic when talking yesterday about sport. Mr Major has both a plan and a man. Just as Richard Branson was launched against litter and Trevor McDonald is still jousting against bad English, so Sir Colin Cowdrey is to be cast into Britain's sport-free zones. His job is to bring heroes and heroines to even the most unheroic inner-city playgrounds.

We wish him well. But as previous figureheads might tell Sir Colin, it is when the political spotlight has been turned off that the real troubles begin. While Mr Branson took the job at the height of his tycoon popularity and Mr McDonald is on TV most nights, Sir Colin is genuinely, as Mr Major put it, "legendary". The man whose captaincy of Oxford was in 1954 will need to recruit some rather younger role models if his political innings is to last.

So short is life at the top in most sports these days that our children think of Gary Lineker, if they think of him at all, as a football commentator and salesman for potato crisps. Some sporting heroes, such as Michael Atherton and Daley Thompson, may be lasting role models of whom Mr Major would more or less approve. But many footballers in the Premiership division are merely examples of how to become a millionaire by leaving school at 16.

Eric Cantona became a children's coach because of a court order. Other sporting heroes, such as Paul Gascoigne, Dominic Cork, Linford Christie, Phil Tufnell and the now "legendary" Ian Botham have devoted their lives to sport, but arguably more obsessively than most children could, or should. Sporting heroes can teach the young how to shoot — and volley and keep a straight bat and even maybe a stiff upper lip. But the true heroes of school sports are elsewhere.

Teachers have to be at school every day, not just on a flying visit. Until more are prepared to stay after school and to turn out at weekends to coach, to referee and to show interest in duffers as well as stars, sport will continue to be a losing activity. Until teachers rediscover the ideals of competitive sports as both fun and discipline for life's great game, sporting ambassadors will have nowhere to leave their credentials.

Until the improvident sale of playing fields for development is stopped, and new spaces opened in this crowded island, fewer children will have anywhere to play team games. And even that is not sufficient to bring the sporting success that Mr Major requires. Sporting genius flowers in the worst and best of soils. Bradman trained his eagle eye by hitting a golf ball with a stump over and over again. Diego Maradona learnt his footwork in the slum streets of Buenos Aires with a ball made from rags. Seve Ballesteros played every stroke in the golf-bag with a three-iron behind the caddie shed. Distinguished ambassadors can inspire us all — but they especially inspire the politicians who first appointed them.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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Church dilemma on homosexuals

From the Rector of Hawkwell

Sir, So the Church of England is demanding an apology from the BBC (report, October 11) over a *Thought for the Day* piece in which Ann Atkins accused the Church of giving "an uncertain sound" over homosexuality.

Mrs Atkins is quite correct if she is referring to the House of Bishops, whose members have made unofficial statements open to contradictory interpretations. The involvement of a bishop in next month's celebration by the Lesbian and Gay Christian Movement in Southwark Cathedral further confuses the situation.

According to your report the Church of England tolerates lay homosexuals in committed relationships; but its official position is based upon a private member's motion which I put to the General Synod in 1987, as amended by the House of Bishops. It stated that homosexual practice "is to be met by a call to repentance" and was passed by a 98 per cent majority.

No other report or statement on the issue has been debated, let alone approved, by the General Synod since.

Yours sincerely,
TONY HIGTON,
The Rectory,
Hawkwell, Hockley, Essex.
October 11.

From the Reverend David Dale

Sir, Mrs Atkins has correctly discerned the causal relationship between laisser-faire doctrine and ethics and the appalling numerical decline of the Church of England. This diocese lost the equivalent of a congregation of 86 every two months last year.

The tragedy is that this relationship is not more widely discerned, and worse, that no effective steps to stem the decline are being taken.

I have recently attended two meetings called to discuss the decline in vocations and income. Not once was any attempt made to find out the cause and the only action decided on was to manage the decline more effectively.

Yours sincerely,
DAVID DALE,
All Saints' Vicarage,
Ryde, Isle of Wight.

From the Reverend Vaughan Roberts

Sir, The only sadness in the recent controversy over a *Thought for the Day* broadcast condemning homosexual practice was the reported criticism of it by the Church of England.

The speaker was simply arguing a position which is taught by the Bible and has been held by the vast majority of Christians throughout history, and she did so with compassion and sensitivity.

It is hard enough to stand for Christ and his standards in an increasingly secular world without being undermined by church officials and bishops, such as those who support the forthcoming gay celebration in Southwark Cathedral.

Yours faithfully,
V. E. ROBERTS,
St Ebbe's Flat,
1 Roger Bacon Lane, Oxford.
October 11.

From the Reverend Eric Shegog

Sir, May I clarify my concern about Radio 4's *Thought for the Day*. The issue is not about what Mrs Atkins said about homosexuality. She is entitled to her view, which is shared by others in the Church.

Our major concern was the use of a platform to attack the Church of England, which did not have an immediate right of reply. Our concern, therefore, is with the BBC as the broadcaster, not with Mrs Atkins or her views on homosexuality.

Yours faithfully,
ERIC SHEGOG
(Director of Communications),
The General Synod of the
Church of England,
Church House,
Great Smith Street, SW1.
October 11.

Bournemouth Tories

From Mr Julian Washington

Sir, I offer some free advice to the leaders of any divided political party which is seeking election victory: do not spend the greater part of your conference calling the party to unity in full view of the media. This only serves to remind the electorate just how divided you really are and convinces us that unity will give way to mutiny as the polling stations close.

Yours faithfully,
JULIAN WASHINGTON,
14 Equity Square,
Shacklewell Street, E2.
October 11.

From Ms Margaret Livens

Sir, Your picture today of Kenneth Clarke and his wife does more for Kenneth Clarke, for family values, for women and indeed for the Tory party than anything contrived by spin-doctors and image-makers.

I trust that the Clarkes will forgive me for personal comment. I am confident that they are confident enough not to care. I could (almost) vote Tory.

Yours faithfully,
MARGARET LIVENS,
2 Arundel Drive,
Bramcote Hills, Nottingham.
October 11.

Nuclear secrets and Stalin's spies

From Professor Joseph Rotblat, FRS

Sir, Mr Benedict Birnberg (letter, October 7) wonders why the Western Allies did not share with the Soviet Union, their ally during the Second World War, information about the development of the atom bomb. Actually, this information would not have "assisted Russia and speeded the end of the war" as he suggests. The war in Europe ended before the first atom bomb was made.

However, sharing nuclear information could have had a tremendous effect on the political climate in the post-war world.

In 1944, long before the atom bomb was ready, the great Danish physicist, Niels Bohr, foresaw the dire consequences of the nuclear arms race — the inevitable result of keeping Russia out of nuclear developments. He suggested that the secrets be shared with Russia, before the atom bomb was used, and that Russia should join in the international control of nuclear energy in both its military and civilian aspects.

President Roosevelt appeared to be very sympathetic to this idea, but it was decisively rejected by Winston Churchill. He said in 1944: "It seems to me Bohr ought to be confined or at any rate made to see that he is very near the edge of mortal crimes."

President Truman, too, was strongly opposed to any sharing of nuclear information. He wanted to retain for the United States the newly acquired enormous military superiority, in the face of the growing antagonism with the Soviet Union. In 1945 his Secretary of State, James Byrnes, is reported to have said: "Our possessing and demonstrating the bomb would make Russia more manageable."

As it happened, thanks to the spying activities of Klaus Fuchs, the Soviet Union acquired the atom bomb in four years. This started the nuclear arms race and the accumulation of enormous arsenals, bringing us several times to the brink of a nuclear confrontation and the end of civilisation.

Yours faithfully,
J. ROTBLAT,
8 Asmara Road, NW2.
October 8.

From Mr Michael Magarian

Sir, In his characterisation of Soviet spies as "heroes, not traitors" and castigation of Allied governments for a "betrayal" of their Soviet partner, Mr Birnberg concentrates on the period following June 1941.

We should remember though that those who helped Stalin in the initial years of the war necessarily helped Hitler too. A quiet Eastern Front was indispensable to Hitler's Western aggression.

By lending such valuable assistance, these spies could hardly be called heroic and the only betrayal was Stalin's pact of friendship with Hitler.

Yours faithfully,
M. MAGARIAN,
Royal Automobile Club,
Pall Mall, SW1.
October 7.

From Mr Peter G. Embrey

Sir, A "dispassionate retrospective assessment" would not selectively ignore the fact that Nazi Germany, rather than ourselves, was Stalin's first choice as an ally.

The Molotov-Ribbentrop pact of August 1939 demonstrated Stalin's untrustworthiness: and is more than enough to demolish absurd claims of high-minded, pro-Western virtue for Soviet spies.

Yours faithfully,
P. G. EMBREY,
19 Edith Road, Barons Court, W14.
October 8.

Oxford's new admissions system

From the Chairman of the Joint Undergraduate Admissions Committee

Sir, On the day (October 7) that you report that top private schools have attacked the new Oxford admissions system, it was reported elsewhere that Mr David Blunkett, MP, believes that Oxford and Cambridge may be biased towards public schools. Both Oxford and Cambridge are often subject to criticism, in equal measure, by the private and state school sectors.

Nevertheless, your report of the Headmasters' and Headmistresses' Conference debate draws attention to some misconceptions about our new admissions system — a system based on interview and school reports rather than on a common entrance examination, and designed to ensure more equitable assessment and a more equitable distribution of the most talented applicants across the colleges.

Under the new system there will be greater opportunity for allocation of candidates to under-subscribed colleges, and we will continue to ensure, by the closest co-operation between tutors, that the very best applicants are given the maximum opportunity at more than one college. This will be combined with greater involvement within subjects, also designed to ensure that the brightest across the board get places.

The interview has always been an important and integral part of the Oxford selection process; but it is now coupled with focused written tests and submission of written work by the candidates, where appropriate, in order to give tutors a complete picture.

What must not be forgotten is the reason for these reforms in the first place. We are very conscious of the difficulty of choosing amongst so many candidates of all backgrounds with top A-level grades, and we are determined to continue to apply individualised selection, and to ensure that all our candidates receive full and fair consideration irrespective of their educational background.

Yours faithfully,
RUTH DEECH, Chairman,
Joint Undergraduate Admissions
Committee,
Oxford University,
University Offices,
Wellington Square, Oxford.
October 7.

Brussels rule

From Mr George Thomas

Sir, Your report (Weekend Shopping, October 4) that Asda are giving away small apples in protest at a Brussels rule preventing their sale is very funny but is also very serious, as it is a good symptom of the fundamental fault that makes the EU so dangerous.

A rule this absurd could not come into being if our laws were generated by the democratic principle that the will of the people, expressed through their elected representatives, is what creates acceptable law.

The EU has not been created under the pressure of public will but is an idea which a group of politicans and bureaucrats have imposed upon the many by their skilful abuse of power and the obfuscation of their aims.

More and more of the laws which we are obliged to obey are imposed upon us, not after debate in Parliament, but at the whim of bureaucrats whose democratic accountability is less than a fig leaf.

Power tends to grow and it is from such unrestrained power that dictatorship can spring. Most of our EU partners should know this, having lived under such governments within the past half century. It is disturbing they did not learn more from the experience.

Yours faithfully,
G. THOMAS,
17 Campden Hill Square, W8.

From Mr Terence Wilson

Sir, Whilst enjoying the fascinating programme *Antonio Carluccio's Italian Feast* on BBC2 last Tuesday, I noticed the shops in Umbria openly displayed fresh food, including the butcher, whose hams and sausages were hanging outside his shop in the village street.

Meanwhile, our local butcher in a nearby village has gone out of business because of the prohibitive cost of hygienic tiling and new refrigerators.

Is this yet another example of Britain blindly following the dictates of Brussels while the rest of Europe does exactly as it has always done?

Yours faithfully,
T. WILSON,
Linden,
8 Clarkesmead, Maldon Road,
Tiptree, Colchester, Essex.
October 9.

Dawn raid

From Mr Brian Simpson

Sir, I was woken at 4am today by the phone. Hearing a fax tone I switched on my machine — and an unsolicited advertisement emerged.

Ordinary junk mail is bad enough, but at least you don't have to pay for the paper it's printed on and it doesn't wake you in the night.

Should there not be legislation against such abuse of the telephone network?

Yours sincerely,
BRIAN SIMPSON,
50 Milton Park, Highgate, N6.
October 9.

Weekend Money letters, page 37

Letters for publication may be faxed to 0171-782 5046.

Adams autobiography

From Mr Thomas Hutchison McFadden

Sir, Your leading article (October 7) stated that in Gerry Adams's autobiography, "There is no acknowledgment that IRA violence also comprehends . . . the death of children or the murder of men whose families have shared Ulster's soil for as long as Mr Adams". In fact on page 172 of his book, Mr Adams writes, "I have lost many good friends, and their families' loss, like my own, is, I know, reflected also in the loss experienced by those who have suffered because of the armed actions of the IRA."

I urge your readers to look into Adams's book for themselves and then decide if your assessment is fair.

Respectfully submitted,
THOMAS H. McFADDEN
(American lawyer),
Pembroke College, Oxford.

Modern alchemy and ancient gold

From Dr John Wilkinson

Sir, It is a coincidence that Bernard Levin's article on gold ("Travels in golden realms", October 4; see also letters, October 8), in which he referred to alchemy, appeared on the same day as your obituary of my brother Professor Sir Geoffrey Wilkinson.

The obituary commented on Geoffrey's work at the Lawrence Radiation Laboratory of the University of California in the late 1940s, which involved the production of a large number of new isotopes of the chemical elements. These included some new isotopes of gold, formed when platinum was bombarded in the cyclotron. This was the first time that gold, albeit in infinitesimally small quantity, had been produced from another substance — modern alchemy.

The occasion was marked by a press release made by the laboratory's director, Professor Glenn T. Seaborg, also a Nobel laureate, which resulted in an article in a San Francisco newspaper under the headline "Scientist discovers gold mine in cyclotron".

Needless to say, this was not a commercial proposition. A short time later Geoffrey abandoned nuclear chemistry for research in inorganic chemistry, where his contribution has been outstanding.

Yours sincerely,
JOHN WILKINSON,
Owlers, Todmorden, West Yorkshire.
October 5.

From Major F. N. L. Chapman

Sir, Bernard Levin's article on gold has a flowing peroration — "to think that it is, and always has been and always will be, absolutely . . . useless". This must be challenged.

Gold in Medici and Fabergé *objets d'art* is essential; it transforms bronze into ormolu for fine furniture and enhances bronze figures with inlay, as shown in the British Museum's current exhibition of new discoveries from the early Chinese dynasties.

It is useful in industry and in dentistry and a little more of it would improve my own "feel-good" factor.

Yours faithfully,
FRANK L. CHAPMAN,
The Old Surgery, Gloucester Street,
Painswick, Gloucestershire.
October 5.

Colnbrook tribute

From Sir Gordon Reece

Sir, Your obituary of Lord Colnbrook (October 7) could not be complete without some mention of his personal qualities and his gift for friendship.

Humphrey Colnbrook could not have been more unlike the traditional Chief Whip. He was courteous, a lot of fun, patient and kindly, quiet, discreet, loyal and generous, and valued family and friends above ambition.

When I told Lady Thatcher of his death, and after inquiring after his family, she said of him: "Integrity, loyalty . . . no malice."

No life of 74 years can be encapsulated in four words, but it is a valedictory that all his friends will recognise.

Yours faithfully,
GORDON REECE,
Buck's Club, 18 Clifford Street, W1.
October 11.

Same again

From Mr Frank Hare

Sir, The BBC's broadcast (Radio Choice, October 9) of the seventieth anniversary transmission of the first choral evensong on October 9, 1926, revealed that politically the world has improved very little.

The closing prayers were for Northern Ireland, the Balkans and "Palestine".

Yours faithfully,
FRANK HARE,
Homend Cottage, Chapel Lane,
Cradley, Worcestershire.
October 9.

Net confusion

From Mr David Stirling

Sir, We may be right to fear a flood of less than appetising material coming into our homes via the Internet (report, October 11).

Having typed "zen" into a search field in an attempt to find an enlightening discussion on Buddhism, it rapidly came to rest on a group titled alt.sex.seniorcitizens.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID STIRLING,
The Wheel, 9 High Street,
Waltham on the Wolds,
Melton Mowbray, Leicestershire.

Face-saving

From Mr Edward Wake-Walker

Sir, There is a tendency in the media today to shirk the real issues that affect us, however unsavoury they may sometimes be.

It was particularly tantalising to read (report, October 8) that *Woman's Hour* fifty years ago broadcast a method of de-sliming a flannel. You didn't get to hear how it is done, by any chance?

Yours faithfully,
EDWARD WAKE-WALKER,
5 West Street,
Kingston, Wareham, Dorset.
October 8.

COURT CIRCULAR

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
October 11: The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh this morning arrived at Royal Air Force Waddington and were received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Lincolnshire (Mrs Robert Cracroft-Eley).

Her Majesty and His Royal Highness drove to the University of Lincolnshire and Humberside and were received by the Chancellor (Dr Harry Hooper) and the Mayor of Lincoln (Councillor Anthony Morgan), who surrendered to The Queen the Sword of the City which Her Majesty returned to him.

The Queen, accompanied by The Duke of Edinburgh, toured the University and subsequently opened the Lincoln Campus.

Her Majesty, with His Royal Highness, afterwards honoured the Chancellor with her presence at Luncheon in the Boardroom.

The Queen, accompanied by The Duke of Edinburgh, this afternoon opened the new Headquarters of Lincoln Canoe Club and was received by the President (Mr Peter Wright).

Her Majesty and His Royal Highness afterwards walked along the High Street to the Guildhall, escorted by the Mayor of Lincoln.

The Queen and The Duke of Edinburgh later visited the William Farr Church of England Comprehensive School, Welton, and were received by the Chairman of Governors (Mr Maurice Keyte) and the Headteacher (Mr Paul Strong).

Her Majesty and His Royal Highness toured the School and The Queen subsequently opened the new Classroom Block.

BUCKINGHAM PALACE
October 11: The Princess Royal this morning visited Gloucestershire and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant (Mr Henry Elwes).

Her Royal Highness, Patron, Farms for City Children, visited Wick Court, Overton Lane, Arlingham, and launched a Book called *Sam's Duck*. The Princess Royal later visited YHP Community Projects, St Paul's Road, Cheltenham.

Her Royal Highness, President of the Patrons, Crime Concern, this afternoon attended the Warwickshire Crime Reduction Programme at the Parents and Adult Literacy Centre, Hob Lane Church of England Infant School, Hazel Grove, Bedworth, and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Warwickshire (Captain the Viscount Daventry).

KENSINGTON PALACE
October 11: the Princess Margaret, Countess of Snowdon today visited NSK Bearings (Europe) Ltd. at Peterlee, County Durham.

Her Royal Highness was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of County Durham (Mr David Grant).

Mr Christopher Blythe

A service to celebrate the life of Mr Christopher Blythe of the *News of the World* will be held at St Bride's, Fleet Street, at noon on Tuesday, October 15.

Lady Thwaites

On the fifth anniversary of her death, a Thanksgiving Mass was celebrated at Milnthorpe, Winchester, on October 10, 1996. Canon Peter Doyle was the celebrant and family and close friends attended.

Memorial service

Mr Harald Penrose
A service of thanksgiving for the life of Mr Harald James Penrose, civil test pilot, was held yesterday in Sherborne Abbey, Dorset. The Rev Eric Woods officiated.

Mrs Susan Garner read the lesson. Mr Ian Penrose, son, read from Harald Penrose's autobiography, *Adventure with Fate*, and Mrs Ann Benitz, daughter, read from the works of Alfred Lord Tennyson. Miss Angela Hickey, mezzo-soprano, sang from Handel's *Care Selve (Atalanta)*.

Royal engagements

TODAY: The Prince of Wales will visit the Royal National Mod at Blairgowrie, Perthshire, at 11.30.

Baroness Symons of Vernham Dean

The life barony conferred upon Miss Elizabeth Conway Symons has been gazetted by the name, style and title of Baroness Symons of Vernham Dean, of Vernham Dean in the County of Hampshire.

Curriers' Company

The following have been elected Officers of the Curriers' Company for the ensuing year:
Master, Mr R.G. Blaber; Upper Warden, Mr C.S. Heaps; Renter Warden, Mr D.H. Pertwee; Junior Warden, Mr A.P.R. Steinthal.

Service dinner

Tay Division Naval VRA
Commander T.R. Woolley, RNR, presided at a dinner of the Tay Division Naval Volunteer Reserve Association held last night at the Royal Tay Yacht Club to mark the 199th anniversary of the Battle of Camperdown.

The Queen with Anthony Morgan, the Mayor of Lincoln, during a visit to the city yesterday to open the University of Lincolnshire and Humberside

Weekend anniversaries

Today
BIRTHS: King Edward VI, reigned 1547-53, London, 1537; Ramsay MacDonald, Prime Minister 1924, 1929-31 and 1931-35, Lossiemouth, Grampian, 1866; Ralph Vaughan Williams, composer, Ampney, Gloucestershire, 1872; Christopher Dawson, historian, Hay-on-Wye, 1889.

DEATHS: Elizabeth Fry, Quaker, prison reformer, Ramsgate, 1845; Robert Stephenson, civil engineer, London, 1869; Robert E. Lee, Confederate commander, Lexington, Virginia, 1870; Tom Mix, film actor, 1940; Sir Ian Hamilton, general, London, 1947; Sonja Henie, world skating champion and film actress, died in an aircrash en route to Oslo from Paris, 1969; Gene Vincent, singer, 1971.

Christopher Columbus discovered the New World, landing on Guanahani (San Salvador), 1492.
The Boer War began, 1899.

An "iron lung" was used for the first time at the Boston Children's Hospital, Massachusetts, 1928.

Tomorrow
BIRTHS: Edward, Prince of Wales, Westminster, 1453; Richard Boyle, 1st Earl of Cork, statesman, Canterbury, 1566; Allan Ramsay, artist, Edinburgh, 1713; Will Brockendon, writer, painter and inventor, Totnes, 1787; Lillie Langtry, actress, Jersey, 1853.

DEATHS: Joachim Murat, soldier, King of Naples, self-styled Joachim Napoleon, executed, Pizzo, Italy, 1815; Canova, sculptor, Venice, 1822; Sir Henry Irving, actor, Bradford, 1905; Sidney Webb, co-founder of the London School of Economics, Liphook, Hampshire, 1947.

President George Washington laid the foundation stone of the White House, 1792.
Ramsay MacDonald made the first election broadcast on the BBC, on behalf of the Labour Party, 1924.

Birthdays

TODAY: Lady (Helen) Brook, founder, Brook Advisory Centre for Young People, 89; Professor Juliet Cheetham, sociologist, 57; Dame Elizabeth Chesterton, architect and town planner, 81; Mr Jaroslav Drobny, tennis player, 75; Mr Kenneth Griffith, actor, writer and documentary film-maker, 75; Mr Robert Heron, former director, the Duke of Edinburgh's Award Scheme, 69; Mr Jonathan Holborow, Editor, *The Mail on Sunday*, 53; Mr Magnus Magnusson, broadcaster, 67; Dr John Moffatt, former Provost, The Queen's College, Oxford, 74; Mr Rick Parfitt, rock singer and guitarist, 48; Vice-Admiral Sir John Parker, 81; Mr Luciano Pavarotti, tenor, 61; Miss Angela Rippon, broadcaster, 52; Mr David Threlfall, actor, 43; Mr Michael Verey, merchant banker, 84; Mr Nigel Waterson, MP, 46; Sir David White, chairman, Nottingham Health Authority, 67.

TOMORROW: Air Vice-Marshal John Allen-Jones, 85; Mr Stephen Bayley, design consultant, 45; Lord Bingham of Cornhill, 63; Sir Roger Carrick, diplomat, 59; Mrs Edwina Currie, MP, 50; Sir Denis Forman, former deputy chairman, Granada Group, 79; Sir Leslie Fowden, agricultural scientist, 71; Mr George Gair, former High Commissioner for New Zealand, 70; Sir Roger Gibbs, chairman, 62; Mr Michael Gooley, chairman, Trailfinders, 60; Mr Michael Heath, cartoonist, 61; Lord Justice Hutchison, 63; Mr J.M. Menzies, chairman, John Menzies, 70; Mr John Regis, athlete, 30; Air Chief Marshal Sir Frederick Rosier, 81; Mr Paul Simon, singer and songwriter, 55; Mr John Simpson, chief editor, Oxford English Dictionary, 43; Miss Rosemary Sisson, writer, 73; Mr J.A. Snow, former England cricketer, 55; Baroness Thatcher, LG, OM, FRS, 71; Mr Mordecai Vanunu, nuclear technician, 42; Lord Justice Waller, 56; Earl Winterton, 53.

Appointment

Mrs Sally Williams to be a District Judge on the South Eastern Circuit.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr J.D. Baigent
and Miss J.W. Saxton
The engagement is announced between Jonathan, younger son of Mr and Mrs Harry Baigent, of Nelson, New Zealand, and Jania, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Peter Saxton, of Wellington, New Zealand.

Mr C.J. Dixon
and Miss J.R. Wallace
The engagement is announced between Jenny, daughter of Mr and Mrs William Wallace, of Calver, Derbyshire, and Christopher, son of Mr and Mrs James Dixon, of Hathersage, Derbyshire.

Captain C.D. Frazer
and Miss G.R. Major
The engagement is announced between Christopher, elder son of Mr and Mrs Stephen Frazer, of Wargrave, Berkshire, and Ginny, daughter of Mr and Mrs John Major, of Sandringham, Norfolk.

Mr N.P. Glynn-Davies
and Miss V.J. Cocks
The engagement is announced between Nigel, son of Mr and Mrs Kenneth Glynn-Davies, of Dublin, Ireland, and Victoria (Torty), daughter of Mr Peter Cocks, of Cumbria, and Mrs Carol Cocks, of Wiltshire.

Mr J.F.T. Hazel
and Miss G.M. Heide
The engagement is announced between Joseph, son of Mr W.T. Hazel, of Stowmarket, Suffolk, and Mrs N.V. Hazel, of Blandford St Mary, Dorset, and Guri, daughter of Dr and Mrs T.E. Heide, of Stavanger, Norway.

Mr A.R. Mullin
and Miss S.L.P. Kirkwood
The engagement is announced between Anthony, only son of Mr and Mrs Robert Mullin, of Wellington, New Zealand, and Sophia, only daughter of Sir Andrew and Lady Kirkwood, of Blackheath, Guildford.

Mr D.G. Nix
and Miss L.A. Fenn
The engagement is announced between David, son of Mr Michael Nix and Mrs Erica Halfhide, of Tunbridge Wells, Kent, and Lisa, daughter of Mr and Mrs John Fenn, of Kenley, Surrey.

Mr Q.C. Richards
and Miss P.T.C. Younger
The engagement is announced between Quinton, son of Mr Clive Richards, of Lower Hope, Hereford, and Mrs Geraldine Richards, of Mark Cross, Sussex, and Tessa, daughter of Mr David Younger, of Dunoon, Argyllshire, and Mrs Alny Younger, of Haddington, East Lothian.

Mr J.G. Samargis
and Miss R.L. Mackenzie
The engagement is announced between James, second son of the late George Samargis and of Mrs Andonia Samargis, of Melbourne, Australia, and Rebecca, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs William Mackenzie, of Melbourne, Australia.

Mr M. Webster
and Ms H. De Lyon
The engagement is announced between Martin, younger son of Mr and Mrs W.J. Webster, of Aldeburgh, Suffolk, and Hilary, younger daughter of Mrs Margaret De Lyon and the late Mr L.J. De Lyon, of Epsom, Surrey.

Mr G.T. Williams
and Miss J.S. Williams
The engagement is announced between Garth, son of the Rev Dr and Mrs Peter Williams, of Ecclesfield, Sheffield, and Juliet, daughter of Mr and Mrs Hugh Williams, of Lindley, Huddersfield.

Mr C.D.G. Willmore
and Miss S.J. Henderson
The engagement is announced between Charles, eldest son of Colonel and Mrs H.G. Willmore, of Crowborough, Sussex, and Sarah, second daughter of Mr and Mrs D.M. Henderson, of Ascot, Brisbane, Australia.

Marriages

Dr D. Doyle
and Mrs C. Whitley
The marriage took place quietly on Saturday, September 28, 1996, at the Church of the Good Shepherd, Murrayfield, between Dr David Doyle, of Bearsden, husband of the late Janet Doyle, née Potter, and Mrs Catherine (Kate) Whitley, née Cruikshank, of Edinburgh, wife of the late John S. Whitley. The Rev David Rimmer officiated.

Dr A.M. Jakubowski
and Miss C.D. Galsworthy
The marriage took place on Wednesday, June 19, 1996, at St Patrick's Cathedral, Barbados, of Dr Antoni Mark Jakubowski, of Harley Street, London, W1, to Miss Corinne Daryl Galsworthy, of "Corilyn", Benett Drive, Hove, Sussex.

A reception was held on Saturday, September 21, 1996, at Dartmouth House, Charles Street, London, W1.

Mr D.J.B. Mee
and Miss N. Gingell
The marriage took place on Saturday, October 5, 1996, at Magdalen College Chapel, Oxford, of Mr David John Byrom Mee, son of Mr and Mrs John Mee, to Miss Nicola Gingell, daughter of Mr and Mrs Donald Gingell.

Church services tomorrow

Nineteenth Sunday after Trinity

ST ANDREWS CATHEDRAL, Aberdeen: 8 HC; *10.15 S Euch. Sumsion in F. Rejoice in the Lord alway* (Redford), the Provost: 6.30 Choral ES Tomkins 5th Service. Evening Hymn (Gardner), the Provost.

ARMAGH CATHEDRAL: 10 HC: 11 M, Stanford in B flat. Jesu joy of man's desiring (Bach): 3.15 E & Litany Walmisley in D minor. Expectans Expectavi (Wood).

BELFAST CATHEDRAL: 10 HC: 11 S Euch. Holy is the true light (Harris). Stanford in B flat & F. For I went with the multitude (Aston): 3.30 Multiple Sclerosis Service. *Jubilate (Howells). Let all the world* (Leighton).

BIRMINGHAM CATHEDRAL: 9 MP: 9.15 HC: 11 The Judges' Service. Sumsion in G. Teach me O Lord (Attwood), the Rt Rev M Santer: 4 Choral Euch. Darke in E. Oculi omnium (Wood). Rev V Cory: 5 EP: 6.30 Malawi Link Service.

BRISTOL CATHEDRAL: College Green 7.40 M: 8 HC: Choral Euch Mass for four voices (Byrd). Salvator mundi (Tallis). Canon A Redfern: 3.30 *Choral E. Wood in F. For lo I raise up* (Stanford), Canon P Johnson.

CANTERBURY CATHEDRAL: 8 HC: 9.30 M: 11 S Euch. Missa in honorem Sancti Dominici (Rubbra). I sat down (Bairstow), the Dean: 3.15 *Canterbury Festival E. Dyson in D, They that go down to the sea in ships* (Sumsion): 6.30 Organ Recital.

CARLISLE CATHEDRAL: 7.45 M: 8 HC: 10.30 S Euch. Missa Sancti Nicolai (Haydn), Archdeacon D Turnbull: 3 E.

CHELMSFORD CATHEDRAL: 8 HC. Rev I Moody: 9.30 Euch. the Vice Provost: 11.15 Justice Service. Vaughan Williams in G. I know that my redeemer liveth (Handel). Canon D Gray: 6 Choral E. Procession & Farewell to the Provost. St Paul's *Service (Howells). Locus iste (Bruckner). The Lord* bless you (Rutter), the Provost.

CHESTER CATHEDRAL: 7.45 L: 8 HC: 9.30 Choral M. Vaughan Williams in G. Jubilate (Walton), the Bishop: 11.30 Choral Euch. *Leighton in D. He that shall endure to the end* (Mendelssohn): 3.30 Choral E. Purcell in G minor. O God thou art my God (Purcell): 6.30 Evening. A Jigsaw.

CHICHESTER CATHEDRAL: 8 HC: 10 M. Collegium Regale (Howells). He that shall endure to the end (Mendelssohn), the Rt Rev Maddocks: 11 S Euch. Missa Brevis (Berkeley). Tantum ergo (Duruflé). Rev L Poodhum: 3.30 E. Wood in D. I will love thee O Lord (Clarke)

CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL, Oxford: 8 HC: *10 M & Sermon*, Britten in C. Canon Ward: *11.15 S* Euch. Missa simile est regnum coelorum (Lobo). O most merciful (Watson). Canon Webster: 6 E & College Prayers. Sumsion in G. Insanae et vanae curae (Haydn).

***COVENTRY CATHEDRAL**: 7.40 MP: 8 Communion*: 10.30 Euch. Spaur Mass (Mozart). Canon C Hall: 3 German Lutherans: 5.30 E. O Lord increase my faith (Loosemore), Aston in F. Lord let me know (Greene).

DURHAM CATHEDRAL: 8 HC. The Dean: 10 M. *Stanford in B flat. Locus iste (Bruckner): 11.15* HC. Mass in five parts (Byrd). Ave verum corpus (Lassus). *The Precentor: 3.30 E. Evening Service* for trebles (Weelkes). Cantate Domino (Byrd): 6.30 Durham School E: 9 A Candlelit Service for Students.

EXETER CATHEDRAL: 8 HC: 9.45 S Euch. Jackson in G. Thou visited the earth (Greene), the Treasurer: 11.15 M. Ireland in F. Be strong and of good courage (Campbell). Canon Ison: 3 E & Installation of Archdeacon of Totnes. Murrill in E. Blessed be the God and Father (Wesley): 7 Harvest Thanksgiving. Praise O praise (How), the Lord Bishop.

GLOUCESTER CATHEDRAL: 8.12.15 HC: 10.15 Euch. Missa ad praesepe (Malcolm). Rev I Calder: *3 County Harvest Thanksgiving. Benedicite in B* flat (Sumsion). All things bright and beautiful (Rutter).

LEICESTER CATHEDRAL: 8 HC: 10.30 Choral M. Stanford in B flat. O sing joyfully (Batten), the *Provost: 11.45 HC: 4 Choral E. Purcell in G minor*, Magnificat anima mea (Pergolesi), the Treasurer.

LICHFIELD CATHEDRAL: 8 HC: 10.30 S Euch. Jackson in G. Thou visitest the earth (Greene). Oculi omnium (Wood). Rev M Sheard: 3.30 E. Edington Service (Ives). They that go down to the sea in ships (Purcell).

LINCOLN CATHEDRAL: 7.45 L: 8, 12.30 HC: 9.30 S Euch. Darke in F. Panis angelicus (Franck), the Precentor: 11.15 M. Boyce in C. *Holy Spirit ever dwelling* (Howells): 3.45 Festal E. O taste and see (Vaughan Williams). Gloucester Service (Parry), the Very Rev D Leaning.

LIVERPOOL CATHEDRAL: 8 MP & HC: 10.30 Euch. Canon N Vincent: 3 Choral E. Canon M Boyling: 4 HC.

MANCHESTER CATHEDRAL: 8.45 MP: 9 HC: 10.30 Judges' Service. Te Deum in E (Britten), the Dean: 11.30 HC: 6.30 E. Lord let me know mine end (Greene). Canon J Atherton.

NORWICH CATHEDRAL: 7.30 MP: 8 HC; 9.15 Family Communion; 10.30 S Euch. Festival Service. Missa Brevis (Burstein). Jesu the very thought of thee (Bairstow). Rev P McFadyen: 3.30 E. Stanford in G. The old order changeth (Shephard). Rev R Collier: 6.30 Healing & *Reconciliation. Canon M Perham.*

PETERBOROUGH CATHEDRAL: 8.15 HC: 9.30 M. Britten in C; 10.30 Euch. Sumsion in F, the Dean: 3.30 E. Sumsion in G. Thou wilt keep him (Wesley).

***RIPON CATHEDRAL**: 8 Euch. Canon P Marshall:* 9.30 Parish Euch sung to Sumsion in F. Teach me O Lord (Attwood). Canon M Glanville-Smith: 11.30 M. Ireland in F. Stanford in B flat. I wrestle and pray (Bach): 12.30 *Euch.* Canon E Eason: 3 Holy Baptism: 5.30 E. Sumsion in A. *O Lord thou hast searched me out* (Sumsion). Canon M Emmel.

ROCHESTER CATHEDRAL: 8 HC: 9.45 M. Te Deum in E. Jubilate in C. Thou visitest the earth (Greene): 10.30 S Euch. Messe Solennelle (Langlais). Thou visitest the Earth (Greene). Canon E Turner: 3.15 E. Sumsion in G. Lord thou hast been our refuge (Boyce).

RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CATHEDRAL, London SW7: 10.30 Divine Liturgy. Kievan Chant.

SALISBURY CATHEDRAL: 8 HC. Canon J Davies: 10 M: *10.30 Ordination of Priests & Deacons.* Canon G Squarey: 3 Festal E. Lord I have loved (Shephard). Salisbury Service (Lloyd). King of Glory (Lloyd).

SHEFFIELD CATHEDRAL: 8 HC (1662): 10 MP: *10.30 S Euch. Missa Aeterna Christi Munera* (Palestrina). Ave Verum (Byrd). Canon J Sinclair: 2.45 Girls Brigade Annual Service. Rev A Morton: 4.30 What's Common about Common Prayer: 6.30 E & Sermon. Bairstow in D. Faire is the Heaven (Harris), the Provost: 8 Christ in Quiet.

SOUTHWARK CATHEDRAL: 9 Euch. the Provost: 11 Choral Euch. Missa Cantate Domino (Duarte Lobo). Almighty God who hast me brought (Ford). Let thy merciful ears (Mudd), the Provost: 3 Choral E. Walmisley in D minor.-Abide with me (Bennett). Canon R Royle.

SOUTHWELL MINSTER: 7.30 M & Litany: 8 HC: 9.30 Parish Communion, the Vicar: 11 S Euch. Darke in E. For the beauty of the earth (Rutter), the Archdeacon of Newark: 3.15 E. O sing joyfully *(Batten), Walmisley in D minor. God omnipotent* reigneth (Wood): 5.45 Healing.

TRURO CATHEDRAL: 8 HC: 9 M: 10 S Euch. Darke in F. And didst thou travel light (Shephard), the Treasurer: 6 E. Wood in E flat. *Rejoice in the Lamb (Britten). Canon P Tidmarsh.*

WAKEFIELD CATHEDRAL: 8 HC. Rev A Jennings: 9.15 Parish Communion. Rev A Jennings. 10.30 Jazz Euch: 11 Solemn Euch. Messe Basse (Fauré). Litany to the Holy Spirit (Hurford). Canon I Knox: 6.30 E. Fauxbourdon Service (Holmes). Great Lord of Lords (Wood). Canon D Baxter.

WELLS CATHEDRAL: 8 HC: 9.45 S Euch. Missa brevis St Johannis de Deo (Haydn). Rev P de N Lucas: 11.30 M. Ireland in F. Set me as a seal *(Walton): 3 E. Collegium Magdalenae Oxoniense* (Leighton). How lovely are thy dwellings (Brahms), the Very Rev R Lewis.

WESTMINSTER ABBEY: 8 HC: 10 M. The people will tell (Handel). Canon C Semper: 11.15 Euch & *Procession to the Shrine of St Edward Stanford in* B flat. Rev B Fenton: 3 E & Procession to the Shrine of St Edward Gloucester Service (Howells). I was glad (Purcell). Rev G Bradley: 5.45 Recital: 6.30 *Evening.* Canon C Semper.

WINCHESTER CATHEDRAL: 8 HC: 10.30 M. *Short Service* (Gibbons). My soul there is a country (Parry), the Rt Rev C Hollis: 11.30 Euch. Missa sexti toni (Croce). O sacrum convivium (Croce): 3.30 E. Dyson in D. Cantique de Jean Racine. Rev C Stewart.

YORK MINSTER: 8.8.45 HC: 10 S Euch. Collegium Regale (Howells). Rev Prof E Norman: 11.30 M & North Eastern Circuit Annual Service. Te Deum in B flat. Sing joyfully (Byrd). Ven A Dean: 4 E. Wood in G. Give unto the Lord (Elgar), the Very Rev R Furnell.

***ST ASAPH CATHEDRAL**, Clwyd: 8 HC: 11 Choral* M. Collegium Regale (Howells). Like as the hart (Howells), the Very Rev Goulstone: 3.30 EP.

ST DAVIDS CATHEDRAL: 8 HC: 9.30 Cymun Bendigaid, yr Archddiacon: 9.30 Parish Euch. the *Succentor: 11.15 Choral M. Stanford in A. Awake* us Lord and hasten (Bach), the Minor Canon: 6 Choral E. Dyson in D. Thou knowest Lord (Purcell), the Canon.

ST GEORGE'S CATHEDRAL, Southwark: 8.10.6 *LM: 11.30 Solemn Mass. Fr J Cronin*: 3 Annual Diocesan Guides Mass.

ST GILES' CATHEDRAL, Edinburgh: 8 Morning HC. Rev J Williams: 10 Morning HC. Rev M Rennie. Gloria in Excelsis (Stanford): 11.30 Morning. Coelos ascendit (Stanford), the Minister: St Giles at Six. Central Band of the Royal British Legion; 8 Evening, the Rev H Smith.

ST MACHAR'S CATHEDRAL: 11 Morning, the Rev R Frazer. Thou visitest the earth. Benedicite (Sumsion): 6 Evening, the Rev R Frazer.

ST PAUL'S CATHEDRAL, London: 8 HC: 8.45 M: 11 S Euch. Missa brevis in C (Mozart). Heilig ist der Herr (Schubert). Rev U Monberg: 3.15 E. Darke in F. The heavens are telling (Haydn). Ven G Cassidy: 5.15 Recital.

ALL SOULS, Langham Place, W1: 9 Communion; 11 Dr J Stott: 6.30 Rev Preb R Bewes.

THE ASSUMPTION, Warwick Street, W1: 11 Missa brevis in D (Rheinberger). Super flumina Babylonis (Palestrina). Tantum ergo (Wilton).

***CHELSEA OLD CHURCH**, SW3: 8.12.15 HC*: 10 Children: 11 M. The Secret of Christ (Shephard). Rev Dr P Elvy; 6 E. Rev D Bean.

HOLY TRINITY BROMPTON, Brompton Road, SW7: 9 ASB HC. Rev S Millar: 11 Family. Rev S *Millar: 5,7.30 Informal. Rev S Downham.*

THE ORATORY, Brompton Road, SW7: 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 Mass. Messe solennelle de S Cecile (Gounod). Ave Maria (Mendelssohn) 12.30, 4.30, 7 Mass; 3.30 V & B. O sacrum convivium (Salazar).

***ST BARTHOLOMEW THE GREAT**, Smithfield*, EC1: 9 HC: 11 M. Elgar in F. How lovely are thy dwellings fair (Brahms), the Rector: 6.30 Choral Euch. Missa Gaudeamus (Victoria), the Rector.

ST BRIDE'S, Fleet Street, EC4: 11 Choral M & Euch. Harwood in A flat. Missa Vidi speciosam *(Victoria). Canon J Oates: 6.30 Choral E. Gray in F* minor. Three songs of farewell (Parry). My soul there is a country. I know my soul hath power. There is an old belief. Canon J Oates.

ST CLEMENT DANES: 11 Choral M. Te Deum & Jubilate (Stanford in C). The surrender of the soul (Cornelius). *Rev P Bishop*: 12.30 HC.

ST COLUMBA'S CHURCH OF SCOTLAND, Pont Street, SW1: 11 Rev C MacLeod: 6.30 Songs of Spirit.

***ST CUTHBERT'S CHURCH**, Philbeach Gardens*, SW5: Mass in C (Coronation) (Mozart). Preserve us O Lord (Holland).

ST ETHELDREDA'S, Ely Place: 11 S Mass. Missa Ave Maria (Palestrina). Gloriose Confessor (Guerrero). O Sacrum Convivium (Byrd).

ST GEORGE'S, Hanover Square, W1: 8.30 HC: 11 S Euch. Kleine Orgelmesse (Haydn). The Rector.

ST MARK'S, Regents Park Rd, NW1: 8 HC: 9.45 Family Communion: 11 S Euch. Missa Brevis in B *flat (Mozart). Christus factus est (Bruckner). Rev T* Jones.

ST MARTIN-IN-THE-FIELDS, WC2: 8 HC: 9.45 Euch. the Vicar: 11.30 Visitors. Rev B Schunemann: 2.45 Chinese. Rev G Lee: 5 Choral E: 6.30 Evening.

ST MARY-THE-VIRGIN, Primrose Hill: 8 HC: 10.30 Parish Euch. Mass for 4 voices (Byrd). Sicut cervus (Palestrina). Rev D Jones: 6 EP & Prayer and meditation.

***CHAPEL ROYAL OF ST PETER AD VINCULA**, HM* Tower of London: 9.15 S Communion in the Chapel Royal of St John the Evangelist. White Tower. Byrd for four voices. Rt Rev & Rt Hon R Chartres; 11 M & Sermon. Short Service (Gibbons). O clap your hands (Vaughan Williams). Rt Rev & Rt Hon R Chartres.

CHAPEL ROYAL, St James's Palace: 8.30 HC: 11.15 MP. I was glad (Parry). Rev J Priestley.

CHAPEL ROYAL, Hampton Court Palace: 8.30 HC *(1662): 11 M. Short Service (Gibbons). Teach me O* Lord (Byrd): 3.30 E. Howells in G. Like as the hart (Howells).

GROSVENOR CHAPEL, South Audley Street, W1: 8.15 HC: 11 S Euch. Missa Aeterna Christi Munera (Palestrina). O sacrum convivium (Messiaen). Mr D Richards.

THE TEMPLE CHURCH, Fleet Street: 8.30 HC; 11.15 MP. Te Deum Laudamus (Smart in F). Jubilate Deo (Smart in F). The Lord is my shepherd (Berkeley), the Master.

GUARDS CHAPEL, Wellington Barracks, SW1: 11 M. I would be true (Pearmain). Hear my prayer (Purcell). Band of the Welsh Guards. Rev L Bryan: 12 HC.

ROYAL NAVAL COLLEGE CHAPEL, Greenwich, SE10: 11 S Euch (BCP). Ireland in C. He that shall endure (Mendelssohn). Rev G Hilliard.

Church news

Appointments
The Rev Daniel Connolly, Vicar, Church of the Good Shepherd, Crookhorn (Portsmouth): to be Rector, Holy Trinity, Sutton Coldfield (Birmingham).
The Rev Colin Coward, Vicar, St Faith, Wandsworth: to resign as from November 30, but continue as Assistant Chaplain (half-time), Queen Mary Hospital, Roehampton (Southwark).
The Rev Dr Reynaud de la Bat Smit, Chaplain, College of St Hilda and St Bede, University of Durham (Durham): to be Chaplain, Cheltenham College (Gloucester).
The Rev Ian Gaskell, Vicar, Birkenshaw cum Hunsworth: to be *also* Rural Dean of Birstall (Wakefield).
The Rev Rosemary Harrison: to be NSM, Kinson Team Ministry (Salisbury).
The Rev Raymond Hutchinson, Vicar, Christ Church, Waterloo, and St. Mary, Waterloo Park: to be Chaplain (full-time), with the Wigan and Leigh Healthcare NHS Trust (Liverpool).

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All the believers used to meet by common consent in Solomon's portico; none from outside their number ventured to join them, yet people in general spoke *highly of them. Acts of the* Apostles 5 : 12,13

BIRTHS

DIMBLEBY - On October 3rd, to Susan (née Irvine) and Andrew, a daughter, Jemima Claudia Clementine, a sister for Robin and Lucinda.

EARDLEY - On 30th September 1996, to Tracy (née Cooper) and Richard, a son, Joseph Richard.

IOANNIDES - On October 8th at Queen Charlotte's Hospital, to Sara (née Haines) and Costas, a son, Christos (Christie), a brother for Theodora and Demetris.

MAXTONE-SMITH - On October 8th at The Portland Hospital, to Ysenda (née Maxtone Graham) and Michael, a son, Charles Mungo, brother to Toby.

PALMER - On January 31st 1996 at Kettering Hospital, to Fiona (née McKinlay) and Richard, a son, Adam John, a brother for Jamie.

THORNE - On 9th October 1996, to Angela (née Morrow) and Ben, a wonderful gift from God of a daughter, Lucy Annabel Helen.

VAN RHEE - On 21st September 1996 in Washington DC, USA, to Suzette (née de Coteau) and Frits, a beautiful 7lbs 8oz baby girl Chevonne Cornelia Hermia, a sister for Tristan.

WHITING - On October 9th at The Portland Hospital a son Connor John William for Tara and Robert.

WOOD - On October 9th at The Portland Hospital, to Elisabeth Wood and Alexander, a beautiful daughter, Marie-Louise, a sister for Maximillian.

YEGANEH - On 8th October at The Portland Hospital, to Hesam and Amanda, a beautiful daughter, Sophia - our first child.

DEATHS

CLARKSON - Richard Milroy O.B.E., suddenly on October 7th 1996, aged 92. A much loved husband of Sylvia, father of Gillian and grandfather of Katrien, Charlotte, Saskia and Richard. He will be greatly missed by his family and many friends. Private cremation. No flowers, donations if desired to Anti-Slavery International c/o W.S. Brister & Son, 100 Lenthay Road, Sherborne. Memorial Service to be announced in due course.

CLARKE - William Hamilton Fleck B.D.S. M.S.C. passed away peacefully on Tuesday 8th October 1996. Dearly beloved husband of Vivien, much loved father of Tamsin and Zoe and most cherished son of Evelyn and the late William B. Clarke. Funeral Service at St Michael's Church, Tidworth, on Tuesday 15th October at 2pm.

DEATHS

MILNER - Kathryn Jane (née Shepheard) suddenly on holiday in France. Dearly loved wife of Andrew, mother of Simon and Lucy, beloved daughter and sister. Funeral at St Mary's Church, Woburn Sands, Milton Keynes on October 15th at 1.30 pm. Family flowers only. Donations to Tuberous Sclerosis Association and C.H.U. Hospital Caen, c/o J.S. Cowley & Son Funeral Directors, 71 High Street, Stony Stratford, MK11 1BA, tel: (01908) 565353.

MURRAY BROWN - On October 10th peacefully in his 84th year James Murray Brown, wonderful husband for 45 years of Ruth Mary (née Allsebrook), dearly loved father of Louise and Angus and grandfather of Tom, Edward, Penny, William, Guy and Felix, generous and loved friend to so many. No funeral or mourning at his request. Cremation private. Family flowers only but donations to The Musicians' Benevolent Fund, 16 Ogle Street, W1P 7LG, would be much appreciated.

NEVISON - Mary Alice, beloved by her family and so many friends to whom she was Auntie Mary, tranquilly in Peterborough on Thursday 25th July 1996.

NICKSON - Mark Andrew, tragically on 5th October 1996, at the age of 39 in Montreal, Canada. Much mourned and always loved by his wife, Afric, his parents May and Michael, his sister Karen, family and friends. A Memorial Service will held at 2 pm on Monday 14th October at St Johns Church, Victoria Road, Farnham Common, Slough, followed by interment in Torquay. Enquiries to (01753) 647101.

PARKER - Ronald William CBE CA at Murrayfield Hospital, Edinburgh, on Wednesday 9th October 1996, at the age of 87, Ronald William Parker (formerly Chairman Scottish Coal and Scottish Gas Boards). Greatly loved and loving husband of Phyllis Mary, father of Chris and Nick and grandfather of Alex, Fiona, James, Sarah and Camilla. A funeral service will be held at Mortonhall Crematorium Main Chapel, Edinburgh on Thursday 17th October at 11 am to which all friends are invited.

RANSFORD - Charles, on October 11th, peacefully in Ludlow Hospital, aged 94 years. Formerly of Lydbury North. Dear father of John, Anne and Gillian and a much loved grandfather. Funeral Service at St Michael's and All Angels Church, Lydbury North, on Tuesday October 15th at 12 noon. Family flowers only, donations if desired to St Michael's and All Angels Church Funds. All enquiries to the Funeral Director W.J. Morris (01588) 638523/638479.

ROBINSON - Edwin George BSc, Dip T.P. FRICS, Husband of the late Norma, father of Patricia and Christopher, former senior partner of Collier and Madge. Died peacefully on October 9th 1996. Funeral noon Friday October 18th at Kingston Crematorium. No flowers, but donations to Guide Dogs for the Blind, c/o F.W. Paine, 182 High Street, New Malden, Surrey, KT3 4ES, (0181) 942-1978.

SAMPSON - Norman Lloyd on 9th October peacefully in Southmead Hospital, Bristol, aged 83. Much loved father of Robert, Andrew, Nicholas and Timothy and dearly loved brother of Edith. Funeral Service 2.15 pm Friday 18th October at Methodist Church, High Street, Portishead. Family flowers only. Donations for NCH Action for Children c/o F.H. Halliday & Son, 115 High Street, Portishead, Bristol BS20 9PT.

SHAW - Harold Watkins D.Litt. O.B.E., husband of Eleanor (née Horne), died peacefully on October 8th 1996. Funeral Service at Worcester Crematorium on Wednesday October 16th at 2.30 pm. Family and friends only. No flowers. If desired donations in his memory to Botton Village Appeal Fund, Danby, Whitby, North Yorkshire.

SUMDT - Dr. Peter peacefully at Coxhill Manor, Chobham, Surrey, on Wednesday 9th October 1996. A much loved father and grandfather. Funeral Service on Wednesday 16th October 2pm St Mary's Church, Hayling Island, followed by burial in churchyard. Family flowers. All enquiries and all donations for Macmillan Trust to Cyril H. Lovegrove Funeral Directors, 32 Guildford Road, Woking, Surrey GU22 7QQ, tel: (01483) 773456.

WILLIAMS - Philip George on Saturday 5th October 1996 aged 77 at Jersey General Hospital. Much loved father of Geraldine and Anthony; stepfather to Iain and Alistair and grandfather to David and Jonathan.

THANKSGIVING SERVICES

BOOTH - A Service of Thanksgiving for the life of Molly Booth, who died aged 94 on 16th September, will be held at St James' Church, Shere, on Thursday 24th October at 11.30 am. All are welcome to the service, and afterwards at the Village Hall.

IN MEMORIAM — PRIVATE

BRIGGS - Jean (née Robertson). Always in our thoughts, Mum, Harry, Emma, Helena.

Mc ARDELL - Ian Patrick, died 12th October 1992, aged 29. Deeply loved son. Sadly missed but forever with us. Mum, Dad, Kevin, Nicola, family and friends.

IN MEMORIAM — PRIVATE

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NOTICE is hereby given pursuant to s27 of the TRUSTEE Act, 1925 that any person having a CLAIM against or an INTEREST in the ESTATE of any of the deceased person's whose names, addresses and descriptions are set out below is hereby required to send particulars in writing of his claim or interest to the person or persons mentioned in relation to the deceased person concerned before the date specified; after which date the estate of the deceased will be distributed by the personal representatives among the persons entitled thereto having regard only to the claims and interests of which they have had notice.

BLEST, ELISABETH MARY, Broomscroft, Canon Lane, Wateringbury, Kent, died 4th March 1996; particulars to Biddle & Co, Solicitors, 1 Gresham Street, London, EC2V 7BU, before 16 December 1996.

BOOTH, JOHN BRABAZON of Darver Castle, Darver Readypenny, Co. Louth, Republic of Ireland died on 22 September 1995 particulars to HOLMAN, FENWICK & WILLAN Solicitors of MARLOW HOUSE, LLOYDS AVENUE, LONDON EC3N 3AL (Ref: DdeP/557 before 13 December 1996

BUCHAN MRS. PHYLLIS MARY LORRAINE of 3 Laurence Allison Mews, The Warren, Mapledurham, Reading died on 26th September 1996 Particulars to Sarjeant & Sheppard Solicitor(s) of 150 Friar Street, Reading RG1 1HE before 16th December 1996

DANBY NAN WINIFRED late of Causeway Cottage, Newton, Isle of Wight, who died on 28th May 1996. Particulars to: Charles Russell Solicitors, 8-10 New Fetter Lane, London EC4A 1RS. Ref: JWR/WPH before the 13th December 1996

MARKS - ETHEL of 66 Princes Court, Brompton Road, Knightsbridge London SW3 1ET, Widow died 21st September 1996; particulars to GRAHAM LINLEY SHELDRAKE AND CLIVE MARKS Executors of ETHEL MARKS c/o Samuels Marks Freedman & Neifeld, 37 Gloucester Place London W1H 4AR before 20th December 1996

MARTINEZ otherwise **MARTINEZ DE LA ROSA, LUCIANA CARLA PAOLA** of 1 Exeter Mansions, Shaftesbury Avenue, London W1 also of 306 Bowery, 2nd Floor, New York, NY 10012 - 2432 died on 27th October 1995 particulars to GERSTEN & NIXON Solicitors of NATIONAL HOUSE, 60/66 WARDOUR STREET, LONDON W1V 3HP before 13th December 1996

REDDING, THOMAS HENRY of 25 Sipson Road, West Drayton, Middx died on 31 July 1996 particulars to MRS W HART of 85 Blackbrook Lane, Bickley, Bromley, Kent BR1 2LS before 13 December 1996.

SMITH ETHEL JOYCE of 15 Harold Road, Stubbington, Fareham, Hampshire died on 29 August 1995 particulars to MATTHEW ARNOLD & BALDWIN Solicitors of 20 STATION ROAD, WATFORD, HERTS WD1 1JH before 13 December 1996.

EVENTS

SIR PETER USTINOV will become President of The Players Theatre on its 60th Anniversary, Sun 20th Oct, 8.15 at The Savoy Theatre WC2 Cabaret by Stars of The Players. Tkts (1 price £25) (mems £15) ONLY from The Players Tel 839 1134

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THEATRES

ADELPHI "ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER'S *MASTERPIECE*" *Wall St Journal* SUNSET BOULEVARD **Winner of 7 Tony Awards including** BEST MUSICAL Starring **RITA MORENO** FOR 4 WEEKS ONLY 24HR CREDIT CARD BOOKINGS *CALL 344 0055 (bkg fee) 420 0000* GRP BOOKING 413 3302 (bkg fee) No booking fee for Adelphi Box Office Callers Recorded information 0171 379 8884 Mon-Sat 7 45 Mats Thur & Sat 3 00 PETULA CLARK RETURNS 4 NOV

THEATRES

ALBERY THEATRE 0171 369 1730 cc 0171 344 4444 Eves 7 30 Mats Wed & Sat 3.00 LIMITED SEASON TO 16 NOV UNCLE VANYA **by Anton Chekhov** FRANCES BARBER CONSTANCE CUMMINGS *TREVOR EVE* DEREK JACOBI RICHARD JOHNSON PEGGY MOUNT JOHN NORMINGTON IMOGEN STUBBS Directed by **Bill Bryden** **"A fascinating intelligent production"** D.Tel **"The best Chekhov I have seen"** S Times

ALDWYCH 0171 416 6003, cc bkg fee 344 4444 Grps 0171 416 6075 **"A MAJOR THEATRICAL EVENT"** Std DIANA RIGG DAVID SUCHET in EDWARD ALBEE'S **"MASTERPIECE"** Tms **WHO'S AFRIAD OF VIRGINIA WOOLF** Dir by Howard Davies Opens 30 October **LIMITED SEASON**

APOLLO 494 5070/344 4444/420 0000 Grps 494 5454/580 6793 ***PETER DAVISON** in* Frederick Knott's Classic 50's Thriller DIAL M FOR MURDER ***"MASTERLY"** D.M* **"MARVELLOUS"** Ind **"A CLASSIC"** D Tel Mon-Fri 8, Mats Thu 3, Sat 5 & 8 15

APOLLO VICTORIA cc 0171 416 6055 cc 24hrs 0171 344 4444/0171 420 0000 Grps 416 6075/413 3321 ***Andrew Lloyd Webber's*** STARLIGHT EXPRESS **THE FASTEST SHOW ON EARTH** White knuckle runs 19 45 daily Tue & Sat 3pm Tickets from £12.50

ARTS THEATRE *Tel: 0171 836 2132* 6-7 Great Newport St WC2 CHAUCER/COGHILL **50th ANNIVERSARY** of the BBC 'THIRD PROGRAMME' FIRST BROADCAST of **THE CANTERBURY TALES** **in the Modern Version by NEVILL COGHILL** **A Tribute & An Entertainment** **SHERIDAN MORLEY** **BILLY BOYLE, PHILIP GOULD** **NICOLAS SEARS, GAY SOPER** **MARTIN STARKIE** GRAHAM BINNS, GLYNNE WICKHAM ***Scott Gillott, Gary Payne & The Chaucer Festival Theatre Company*** **SUNDAY OCT. 20th 7.30pm** Tkts £10 (incl. 1st Drink), £7 50; Concs £5

CAMBRIDGE 494 5080/416 6060 344 4444/420 0000 (+ bkg fee) Groups 494 5454 416 6075/413 3321/436 5588 GREASE FROM 24 OCTOBER

CHAPEL OF LOVE-PICCADILLY CIRCUS 0171 287 4433/ 420 0000/ 344 4444 Tkts also at HMV/ Tower Records **LONDON'S NEW COMEDY SENSATION** JOEY & GINA'S WEDDING You're more than a member of the *audience, you're part of the family!!* **Price includes show, live music and unlimited Italian buffet** **Tues - Fri 7.45, Sat 7.45, Sun 5**

COMEDY THEATRE 0171 369 1731 cc 344 4444 (bkg fee) 420 0000 Eves 8 Thurs Mat 3 Sat Mat 5 MAGGIE SMITH "brilliant beyond belief" Ind MARGARET TYZACK "genuinely moving" D Tel TALKING HEADS *Written & directed by* ALAN BENNETT "wonderfully touching and funny" Tms FROM 22 OCT LIMITED SEASON

CRITERION 369 1737/344 4444 REDUCED SHAKESPEARE COMPANY in **THE COMPLETE WORKS OF WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE (abridged)** **"Hilarious"** Times Mats Thur at 3, Sat at 5 Sun at 4, Eves at 8pm **THE COMPLETE HISTORY OF AMERICA (abridged)** Tuesday at 8pm

DOMINION Ticketlines 0171 416 6060/ 0171 420 0000 (bkg fee) Grps 0171 416 6075/413 3321/420 0200 GREASE Starring **RICHARD CALKIN** and **SHONA LINDSAY** **"A Monster Hit"** D Mir Eves 7.30, Mats Wed & Sat 3pm **TICKETS AVAILABLE** FROM 24 OCT MOVES TO CAMBRIDGE THEATRE

DOMINION 416 6052/420 0000 (+ bkg fee) Grps 416 6075/312 1970 **LONDON'S CHRISTMAS CRACKER!** ANTHONY NEWLEY SCROOGE **THE MUSICAL** "BREATHLESS SOARAWAY SHOW - MAGNIFICENT" D/ Exp *6 Nov 96 - 1 Feb 97*

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DUCHESS cc 0171 494 5070 cc 344 4444 *(no bkg fee)*/420 0000 *(bkg fee)* 0171-413 3321 Eves 8pm, Wed mat 3pm, Sat 5pm & 8.30 **"A SAUCY COMEDY"** E. Std ***NOW IN ITS 6th YEAR*** DON'T DRESS FOR DINNER **"Gloriously Outrageous"** T.Out

FORTUNE BO & CC 0171 836 2238/312 8033 **BARRY STANTON** **MICHAEL HIGGS** **Susan Hill's** THE WOMAN IN BLACK Adapted by Stephen Mallatratt **"The most thrilling and chilling play for years"** D Mail **NOW IN ITS 8TH YEAR** Mon-Sat 8pm Mats Tues 3pm Sat 4pm

GARRICK 0171 494 5085/ 312 1990 (no bkg fee) **Some Experiences You Never Forget** **WINNER OF 19 MAJOR AWARDS** **The Royal National Theatre production** JB Priestley's AN INSPECTOR CALLS **"THRILLING...MUST BE SEEN"** D Mail **"One of the most intoxicating, theatrically imaginative experiences of the 1990s"** Eve. Stand **"TWO HOURS OF ENTHRALLING, VISUALLY STUNNING DRAMA"** D Tel Mon-Fri 7 45, Sat 5.00 & 8.15, Wed mat 2 30

GIELGUD THEATRE 0171 494 5065/0171 312 1990 **BOB HOSKINS & JAMES CALLIS** in OLD WICKED SONGS *a new play by **Jon Marans*** 1996 Pulitzer Prize Finalist directed by **Elijah Moshinsky** Mon-Sat 7 30pm, Thurs mat 2.30pm, Sat mat 4pm. Prevs from 13 Nov

HAYMARKET 0171 930 8800 cc 0171 344 4444 Grps 0171 436 5588 Eves 8pm Mats Thur 3pm & Sat 4pm **FOR 10 WEEKS ONLY!** JASON DONOVAN ROSEMARY LEACH in EMLYN WILLIAMS' Classic Thriller NIGHT MUST FALL

HER MAJESTY'S 24hr 494 5400 (bkg fee) CC 344 4444/420 0000 (fee) Grps 494 5454/413 3311/436 5588 **ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER'S AWARD WINNING MUSICAL** THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA Directed by HAROLD PRINCE **NOW BKG TO MAY 97** Eves 7 45 Mats Wed & Sat 3.00. Apply to Box Office daily for returns

هكذا من الأصل

L. P. WILLIAMS

L.P. ("Bill") Williams, cinema art director, died on October 8 aged 91. He was born on August 10, 1905.

The art director L. P. Williams was one of those brilliant cinematic technicians whose names are rarely familiar to the public but whose work is an essential part of any successful film. Before the Second World War, in a collaboration with the producer Herbert Wilcox that lasted more than a decade, he made a distinguished contribution to the development of British cinema. Then, in 1945, his art direction was instrumental in creating the vividly detailed realism that gave David Lean's classic *Brief Encounter* its enduring appeal. By the time he retired from the film industry, Williams had worked on more than 40 films — and he was only 44.

Lawrence Paul Williams was educated at Aldenham, before going on to the Architectural Association in 1922.

After a short time in an architect's office, where he was responsible for the interior of the Duke of York's Theatre in Piccadilly, he secured a job at Stoll's Cricklewood Studios, where such silent films as *The Woman in White*, *The Bondsman* and *The Triumph of the Scarlet Pimpernel* were then being made. He also worked on the first "talkie" to be made in England, *Wolves*, in 1927.

Soon after this he became Herbert Wilcox's supervising art director at British and Dominion Studios at Elstree. He forged a relationship with Herbert Wilcox that was to last through the 1930s, during which he was art director on many of Wilcox's classic pictures, including *On Approval*, *60 Glorious Years*, *Escape Me Never* and *Brewster's Millions*.

In 1935 Williams was the first art director to have a film sketch — a set from *Peg of Old Drury* — accepted by the Royal Academy for its summer exhibition. This attracted a good deal of press comment at the time, being hailed by many as a welcome sign that film was at last being taken seriously as an art form.

Williams's work was also exhibited at the RIBA and the Victoria and Albert Museum, and later at the British Film Institute. Powerfully evocative as drawings in their own right, his sketches were always supremely practical as designs, conveying with remarkable accuracy what the finished sets would look like.

In the course of his film career, Williams worked with many of the great names of the day, among them David Lean, Herbert Wilcox, Noël Coward, Eddie Dmytryk, Alfred Hitchcock and George Stephens. As well as his pioneering work in British films, he also worked in Hollywood, recreating Rugby School there in 1939 for *Tom Brown's Schooldays*.

In 1936 Williams married Queenie Leonard, an actress and singer. In early 1939 his work took them to Hollywood. When war broke out, his first priority was to get back to England. He was able to secure a job with the RAF as a conducting officer for a group of volunteers for the Eagle Squadron.

Having got back to England with the RAF, he was stationed at Duxford and sent on a course for aircraft controllers. Also at Duxford at the time was the "Enemy Aircraft Circus" — captured enemy aircraft that were used for testing and evaluation. Williams managed to hitch many rides in his spare time, being a very keen amateur pilot who had joined the Stage & Screen Aero Club in 1933 and obtained his private pilot's licence in 1934. Even though the captured aircraft were painted bright yellow and well notified, he remembered being very nervous on more than one occasion when a Spitfire materialised on their wing over the Essex countryside and gave them a thorough "once over". During this time he simultaneously held a commission in the RAF and also (as a Territorial) in the Army — a very rare occurrence.

Soon after, because of his film industry experience, Williams was recruited into SOE and sent to Cairo to command its camouflage operations there, and to take responsibility for equipping agents to be sent behind enemy lines. Many of the ideas he came up with, such as exploding horse droppings and dead rats, were taken back to "The Barn" at Letchmore Heath and developed for wider use within SOE, but his idea for introducing explosives disguised as coal into railway yards in Greece had to be abandoned when it was found that Greek engine-drivers were being forced to man the trains.

He met the woman who was to become his second wife at this time, Peggy Garratt, the youngest daughter of John Edwin Garratt, founder of the Ryvita company; she was in Cairo as personal assistant to Lord Glenconner, head of the SOE establishment there.

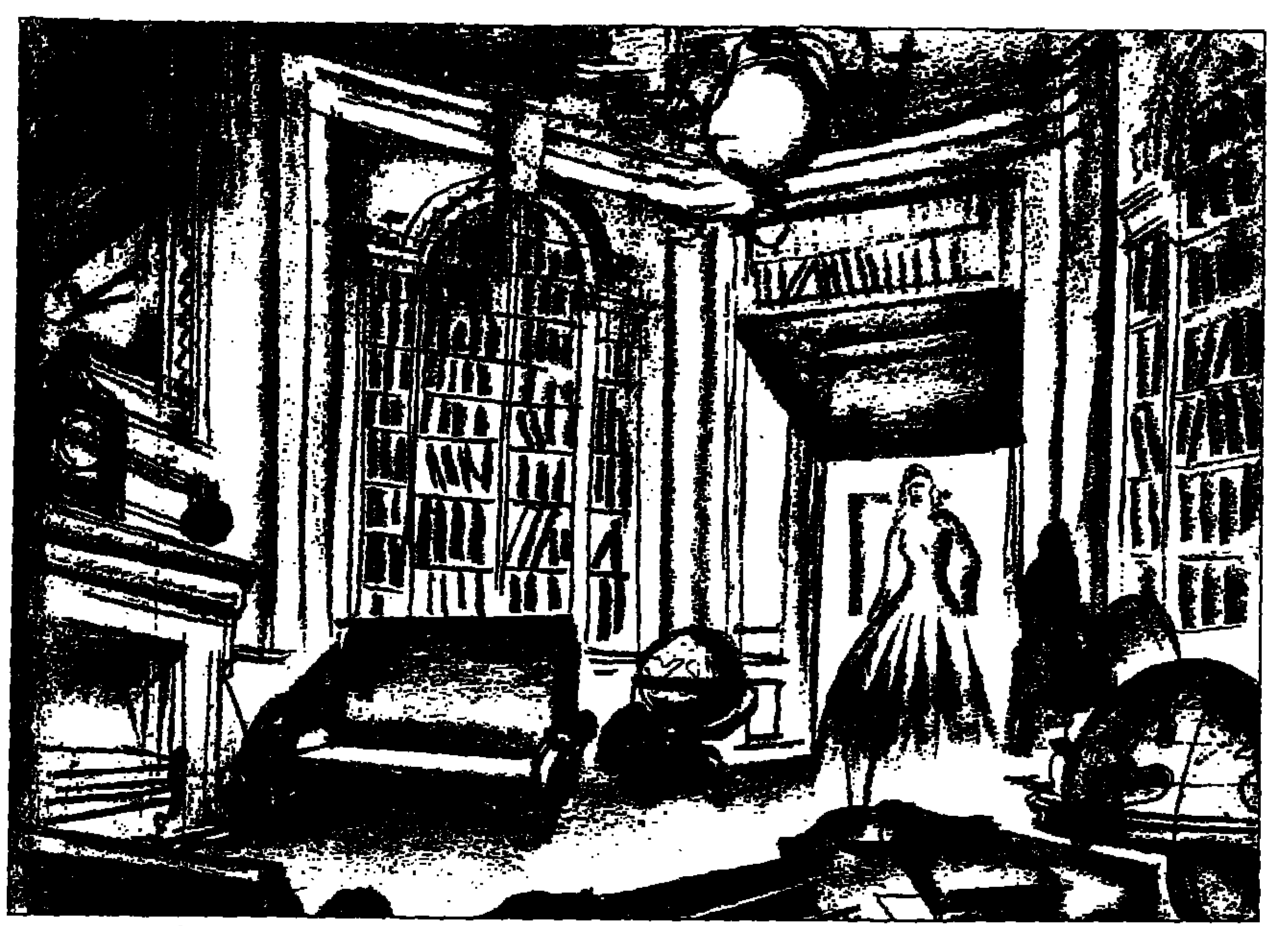
As the war moved on Williams transferred his unit to southern Italy and established himself in a spaghetti factory near Bari. Soon afterwards he contracted amoebic dysentery and was repatriated in 1944. On his return, still in uniform in 1945, he was art director on David Lean's *Brief Encounter*. His powerful visual imagery was to a great extent responsible for the feel and atmosphere of this classic film.

He was a member of the Society of Motion Picture Art Directors in America, and in England was a prime mover in the formation of the Society of British Film Art Directors and Designers, whose first president he became. Soon he was appointed technical director to the Rank Organisation group of studios and headed the technical development department at Pinewood. He was also given responsibility, because of his experience in Hollywood, for introducing a system of budgetary control into British film production at Pinewood.

He retired from the film industry aged 44, in 1949, with three years of a five-year contract still to run. He came to an "understanding" with J. Arthur Rank when the Rank Organisation's film division was going through a lean period and cutting back.

This allowed him to buy a small farm in Oxfordshire and settle down to a farming "retirement". In fact he approached the venture with his customary vigour and quickly turned a rather run-down establishment into a first-class operation, with a productive dairy herd, pig unit and arable enterprise. This kept him active until the last weeks of his life.

Having lost his second wife, Peggy, in 1990, he was sustained by his grandchildren and his hobby of military modelling where, once again, his meticulous attention to detail and consummate craftsmanship came to the fore; he had always been particularly interested in the Peninsular and Napoleonic period. He is survived by his son from his second marriage.



One of L. P. Williams's sketches showing a set for Herbert Wilcox's 1935 film *Peg of Old Drury*

TERRY PATCHETT

Terry Patchett, Labour MP for Barnsley East since 1983, died yesterday of cancer aged 56. He was born on July 11, 1940.

A MINER for 17 years before he entered the House of Commons, Terry Patchett in some ways represented a throwback to the "glory days" of the old National Union of Mineworkers. But, whereas the NUM's former ranks of sponsored MPs (of which at one stage there were no fewer than 38) tended to support the Right within the Parliamentary Labour Party, there was never any doubt of Patchett's personal loyalty to Arthur Scargill (at least until the latter's recent founding of the Socialist Labour Party) or of his general allegiance to the PLP's left-wing.

A member of the NUM's Yorkshire executive when he was urged by Scargill to go for the NUM's rock-solid seat of Dearne Valley (which became Barnsley East before the 1983 election), Patchett never seemed wholly at home in the Palace of Westminster. He seldom spoke in the Commons chamber but did some effective work behind the scenes, notably on the Parliamentary Labour Party's energy committee, of which he was vice-chairman, and on the Commons Select Committee on Social Services.

He had come to Westminster with an apprenticeship in local government behind him, having been elected to the Wombwell Urban District Council in 1969 and spending four years on it. But his heart was really in being a union official — he had been the delegate of the Houghton Main branch since 1966.

Left to his own devices, he would almost certainly have preferred to pursue his career even in the much-reduced mineworkers' union (which today has only some 10,000 members). But Scargill had other plans for him, and it was typical of Patchett's sense of duty that he should have fallen in with them without much of a struggle.

The life of a mining MP sent to the Commons — with his family left behind in the North — is, however, a lonely one. And Patchett, like his predecessors, was often reduced to seeking company in the various watering-holes of the Palace of Westminster (his favourite was Annie's Bar, where lobby journalists and Members mingle).

But he was a serious figure who had studied politics and economics at Sheffield University and who faced unflinchingly, while already ravaged by cancer, the supreme effort last February of making the 400-mile round trip to Westminster to vote at the end of the debate on the Scott report. The courage with which he had fought his illness over the past two years commanded widespread admiration both in his constituency and in the Commons.

He leaves a widow Glenys, one son and two daughters.

RUTH ANSLOW

Ruth Anslow, nanny, died on October 5 aged 75. She was born on November 21, 1920.

ONE OF the last surviving members of that dignified breed, the old-fashioned British nanny, Ruth Anslow chose to be referred to by the surname of the family in whose service she was at the time. To those who knew the van Cutsem family, the last for whom she worked, she will be remembered as Nanny van Cutsem. But in the course of a long life she was responsible for the upbringing and care of the children of six families. A model of good manners and moral rectitude, she earned the deep love and respect of all who knew her.

Ruth Anslow was the daughter of a policeman. She always loved children, having been brought up as part of an extended family, and it is perhaps unsurprising that she decided at an early age to devote her life to the care of other people's children. She secured her first post in 1939, when she was just 19 years old, with the family of the painter, Simon Elwes. In this position she found herself immediately responsible for overseeing the evacuation of his two young sons to America on the outbreak of the Second World War and she was to remain in sole charge of the children for the six years until the end of the war.

This devotion to her charges became the pattern of her life as she moved on from the Elwes household to the Codrington, McRoberts, Micklethwait, Macdonald and van Cutsem families. But, though the children in her charge grew up and she moved on, she never forgot them, nor they her. She treasured the hundreds of letters which she received from them throughout their adolescent and adult lives, replying to each letter attentively before carefully filing it away.

Ruth Anslow was a devout Anglican, but it mattered little to her that most of the families she was to work for were Roman Catholic. What was important was that she should instil in each child who passed through her hands a clear sense of right and wrong. Yet there was nothing of that formidable starchiness about her so often associated with the traditional nanny. If the cook fell ill, she would head for the kitchen and a splendid lunch would appear on the family table. If one of the children had a problem with a pony, Nanny — though she could not ride herself — would assume the role of riding instructor. She lavished the same love on the family pets as the children did themselves and she could turn her hand to anything, from nursing a sick dog through the night to helping to repair the boiler when it blew up.

But, above all, it was for her unstinting devotion to children that she will be remembered. On one occasion, after a Sunday luncheon party when all the guests were dozing sleepily in the sun, a little boy strayed away from his mother and fell into the swimming pool. Before anyone else had realised what had happened, Nanny's watchful eye had spotted the danger and, racing across the lawn, she had dived into the swimming pool and rescued the hapless child.

The last few years of Ruth Anslow's life were cruelly afflicted by Parkinson's disease, but she bore it with characteristic bravery and cheerfulness.

She remained unmarried.

PERSONAL COLUMN

THEATRES

LONDON PALLADIUM BO/CC 0171 494 5020/344 4444 (£1 tkt serv chg) 420 0000 Grps 0171 420 0200 LAST 2 WEEKS TO SEE RUSS ABBOT FROM 21 OCT TONY AWARD-WINNING ROBERT LINDSAY IS FAGIN "A MAJOR THEATRICAL EVENT" D. Mail OLIVER! 2ND SPECTACULAR YEAR 'LIONEL BART'S MASTERPIECE YOU CAN'T ASK FOR MORE' S Times Eves 7.30 Mats Wed & Sat 2.30 SOME GOOD SEATS AVAIL NOW FOR WEEKDAY PERFS

LYCEUM cc 0171 656 1806 0990 500 800/ 344 4444/420 0000 (bkg fee) Grps 416 6076 TIM RICE & ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER'S JESUS CHRIST SUPERSTAR OPENS 19 NOVEMBER (no bkg fee for personal callers at the temporary Box Offices at the Apollo Victoria & Dominion Theatres. Ring 656 1806 for opening times.)

LYRIC 0171 494 5045 cc 420 0100/344 4444 (bkg fee) "THE MOST UNPRETENTIOUSLY ENJOYABLE SHOW IN LONDON" Tms BY JEEVES THE ALAN AYCKBOURN & ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER MUSICAL "...HAD THE AUDIENCE BUCKLING UP WITH LAUGHTER" Ind Eves 7.45 Mats Weds & Sat 3pm Concessions available.

NATIONAL THEATRE BO 0171 928 2252 Grps 0171 620 0741; 24hr cc bkg fee 0171 420 0000 OLIVIER Today 2.00 & 7.15 THE ALCHEMIST Ben Jonson. Mon 7.00 THE OEDIPUS PLAYS Sophocles in a new translation by Ranjit Bolt LYTTELTON Today 2.15 & 7.30. Mon 7.30 JOHN GABRIEL BORKMAN Henrik Ibsen in a new version by Nicholas Wright COTTESLOE Today 2.30 & 7.45 VIOLIN TIME Ken Campbell. Mon 6.30 WAR AND PEACE Adapted by Helen Edmundson from the novel by Leo Tolstoy

NEW LONDON Drury Lane WC2 BO 0171 405 0072 CC 0171 404 4079 24hr 0171 344 4444/420 0000 Grps 0171 413 3311/436 5588 THE ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER/ T.S. ELIOT INTERNATIONAL AWARD-WINNING MUSICAL CATS Eves 7.45 Mats Tue & Sat 3.00 LATECOMERS NOT ADMITTED WHILE AUDITORIUM IS IN MOTION. PLEASE BE PROMPT Bar open at 6.45 LIMITED NO. OF SEATS AVAIL DAILY FROM BOX OFFICE

OLD VIC 928 7616/312 8034 THE PETER HALL COMPANY David Rintoul Nicky Henson Diane Fletcher Deborah Grant Googie Withers John McCallum OSCAR WILDE'S MASTERPIECE AN IDEAL HUSBAND "GREAT & GLORIOUS" S. Tms Mon-Sat 7.30, Mats Wed & Sat 3.00

PALACE THEATRE 0171-434 0909 cc 24hrs (bkg fee) 0171-344 4444 Grps 0171 413 3311 THE WORLD'S MOST POPULAR MUSICAL LES MISERABLES NOW IN ITS 11TH RECORD-BREAKING YEAR Eves 7.30 Mats Thu & Sat 2.30 Latecomers not admitted until the interval LIMITED NO. OF SEATS AVAIL. DAILY FROM BOX OFFICE

PHOENIX BO/CC 0171 369 1733 /344 4444/420 0000 (fee) BEST MUSICAL Olivier/Drama Awards Plays & Players/Ivor Novello Awards WILLY RUSSELL'S BLOOD BROTHERS ...Brings the audience to its feet, and roaring its approval" D Mail 10TH TRIUMPHANT YEAR Eves 7.45 Mats Thurs 3 Sat 4

PICCADILLY 0171 369 1734/344 4444/0171 420 0000 (24hrs) "Magical, fantastic, wonderful...the stuff of dreams" D.Tel ADVENTURES IN MOTION PICTURES PRESENTS SWAN LAKE "the best night out in London" Standard "blissfully comic, fiercely moving" S.Tms Eves 7.30, Mats Wed & Sat 2.30 LIMITED SEASON UNTIL 11 JAN

PLAYHOUSE 0171 839 4401 cc 0171 420 0000 (bkg fee) JANET McTEER OWEN TEALE 'achingly accurate impeccable' S.Tms A DOLL'S HOUSE by Henrik Ibsen a version by Frank McGuinness directed by Anthony Page From 22 Oct - Limited Season

PRINCE EDWARD 0171 447 5400 First Call 420 0100 cc 344 4444 Groups 420 0000 "A MUSICAL MASTERPIECE" Int.Her.Trib MARTIN GUERRE A New Musical by BOUBLIL & SCHONBERG "C'EST MAGNIFIQUE AN ECSTATIC AUDIENCE ROARED IT'S APPRECIATION" D. Mail Mon-Sat 7.45 Mats Thur & Sat 3.00

PRINCE OF WALES 0171 839 5987/420 0000/344 4444/420 0200 Grps 0800 614903 DIRECT FROM BROADWAY GRAMMY AWARD WINNING MUSICAL SMOKEY JOE'S CAFE THE SONGS OF LEIBER & STOLLER Directed by Jerry Zaks and starring STAND BY ME ON BROADWAY PEARL'S A SINGER LOVE POTION #9 RUBY BABY CHARLIE BROWN I'M A WOMAN TREAT ME NICE BABY, THAT IS ROCK & ROLL SEARCHIN' POISON IVY HOUND DOG KANSAS CITY FOOLS FALL IN LOVE SAVED FALLING Prevs 15 Oct Opens 23 Oct

QUEEN'S 494 5040/344 4444 Grps 494 5454/436 5588 GENE WILDER "Puts the Gene into genius" D.Mail in NEIL SIMON'S hilarious new comedy LAUGHTER ON THE 23rd FLOOR "Funny and genuinely touching" D.T Eves 8pm, Wed 2.30pm, Sat 4pm

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SHAFTESBURY 0171 379 5399 0171 413 3588 (24hr/no bkg fee) Groups 0171 413 3321 TOMMY PAUL KEATING as Tommy KIM WILDE as Mrs Walker "BREATHTAKING" S Times "SPECTACULAR" FT "BRILLIANT" Observer Mon-Thu 8pm, Fri 5.30pm (all seats £15) & 8.30 pm, Sat 3pm & 8.30pm LIMITED DAILY AVAILABILITY

ST MARTIN'S 0171 836 1443 (no bkg fee) 0171 420 0000 (bkg fee) 0171 344 4444 (bkg fee) Groups 0171 312 1994 (no bkg fee) Eves 8, Tues 2.45, Sat 5 & 8 44th Year of Agatha Christie's THE MOUSETRAP

SAVOY THEATRE 0171 836 8888 cc 0171 420 0100 (no bkg fee) / 0171 344 4444 (no bkg fee) Tue - Sat 7.30 Mats Wed & Sat 3.00 DAWN FRENCH ALISON STEADMAN ANNETTE BADLAND JUDITH BARKER PAUL COPLEY SHIRLEY ANNE FIELD DENIS LILL ROGER LLOYD PACK and LEO McKERN WHEN WE ARE MARRIED by J.B. Priestley Directed by Jude Kelly FOR 7 WEEKS ONLY "A glorious, glowing revival" S.Times

STRAND THEATRE Box Off & cc (no fee) 0171 930 8800 cc (bkg fee) 0171 344 4444/420 0000 Groups 0171 413 3321/0171 436 5588 "BUDDY" The Buddy Holly Story "BRILLIANT" Sun "BUDDY" "WONDERFUL STUFF" Sun Tel "BUDDY" Tues-Thurs 8.0 Fri 5.30 & 8.30 Sats 5.00 & 8.30 Sunday 4.00 ALL SEATS 1/2 PRICE FRI 5.30 PERF 8th ELECTRIFYING YEAR

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VICTORIA PALACE BO & cc (no fee) 0171 834 1317 cc (bkg fee) 0171 344 4444/312 1998/420 0000 Groups 0171 312 1997 /0171 930 6123 (no fee) WINNER 1996 OLIVIER AWARDS BEST MUSICAL "JOLSON" WITH BRIAN CONLEY "A RESOUNDING HIT" Sunday Telegraph Evgs. Tues to Sat 7.30, Mats Wed & Sat 3.00 Extra special ½ price mat Thurs at 3.00 starring Allan Stewart FULLY AIR-CONDITIONED NOW BOOKING TO APRIL '97

WHITEHALL 369 1735 cc 344 4444 Eves 8 Wed 3 Sat 5.30/8.30 IT'S A BENEFIT FRAUD BELLY LAUGH! CASH ON DELIVERY By MICHAEL COONEY Dir by RAY COONEY "THIS SUPERB FARCE IS AN INSTANT CLASSIC" D.Tel

WYNDHAMS 369 1736/344 4444 "ART" ALBERT FINNEY TOM COURTENAY KEN STOTT A new play by Yasmina Reza Trans. by Christopher Hampton First Night 15 Oct Eves 8, Mats Wed 3 & Sat 5 Sundays 5pm

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ON THIS DAY

October 12, 1854

Before sending his report, our Special Correspondent, William Howard Russell, was perched on the rigging of a warship for his view of this bloody encounter.

THE BATTLE OF THE ALMA

A View from the Maintop

The River Alma, Sept 21.

I have just walked over a battlefield — the field of Alma, one which will occupy a brilliant page in our history. From a magnificent position, the finest in the world for an opposing army, the Russians, with an army of 40,000 men and 100 guns, the flower of the Czar's forces were yesterday, in three hours, driven by the allied forces like so many dogs. Had we had cavalry they would have been entirely cut to pieces while in retreat, and all their guns taken: as it is, the result of the battle is, for us, the position gained by our army, and on the part of the Russians the moral sense of their having been thoroughly beaten, in addition to their material losses: the highest exultation of feeling is universal in the allied army. Two Russian guns were taken, and two generals, who are wounded. The guns are fine brass pieces, one of them a 24 or 30 pounder brass howitzer. Our loss is important and great. The 23rd Royal Welsh Fusileers suffered very severely, as also the 95th (Derbyshire), and the Grenadier Guards, 7th Royal Fusileers, 33rd (Duke of Wellington's), 93rd Highlanders, and 55th. In the fleet, the tops and rigging of the ships were filled with officers and men viewing the engagement. The victory was most decisive, and, as our artillery gained the position on the heights, whole lanes were mowed down in the retreating columns of the Russians: yet we hear today (by the Sampson, just arrived) that Prince Menschikoff and Gortschakoff, who were yesterday, in person, making the utmost use of their heels have today had the impudence to cause salutes to be fired in Sebastopol, the ships to be dressed, and perhaps have sung their last *Te Deum* for their ignominious flight! The position they occupied was magnificent, and their generals calculated upon holding it for three weeks. Lord Raglan allowed himself three days for its capture, and the whole was finished, from the first shot to the last, in less than three hours. Nothing could exceed the kindness of our officers towards the Russian wounded, they going over the field with a plentiful supply of brandy and administering it where wanted, equally to them as our own men. The 57th Regiment, from Corfu, without a single case of sickness, arrived yesterday. A Russian Colonel was taken yesterday by the English outposts, also a Russian nobleman: the latter was liberated on supplying 100 arabas and oxen to the army.

THE TIMES TODAY

SATURDAY OCTOBER 12 1996

NEWS

Major pits himself against Blair

■ John Major served notice, as he brought the Conservative Party Conference in Bournemouth to a rousing close, that he intends to turn the general election into a direct contest between himself and the Labour leader, Tony Blair.

He will present himself in towns and streets as a straight-talking man of the people compared with a verbose, privileged and out-of-touch novice .... **Page 1, 2, 10, 11**

Lisburn bomb soldier dies

■ The Prime Minister openly accused Gerry Adams, the Sinn Fein president, of backing terrorism, suggesting he was implicated in the death of Warrant Officer James Bradwell, injured in Monday's IRA attack in Lisburn.......... **Page 1, 2**

Women underpaid

Women solicitors are being discriminated against by a pay scale that rewards male colleagues with higher salaries .... **Page 1**

Plunderer jailed

An accountant who systematically plundered almost £240,000 from the Church of England to fund an extravagant lifestyle began a three-year jail sentence...... **Page 3**

Rapist sought

Police hope a public outcry will help them to catch a man who raped a woman of 87 while holding her captive in her home for most of the night.......... **Page 3**

Cancer risk

Women who have an abortion increase by a third their risk of getting breast cancer, researchers said.......... **Page 4**

Poor's champion

Prue Leith, the millionaire caterer, has become a champion of the dispossessed .... **Page 7**

Church criticised

Support for the clergyman's wife who used the BBC's *Thought for the Day* to attack the Church of England's stance on homosexuality was growing .... **Page 8**

Sex-trade sentence

A Briton has been jailed for 16 years for inducing child prostitution in the Philippines ......**Page 12**

Malan cleared

Magnus Malan, the former South African Defence Minister, was acquitted on charges of murder and conspiracy to murder ....**Page 13**

Peace Prize

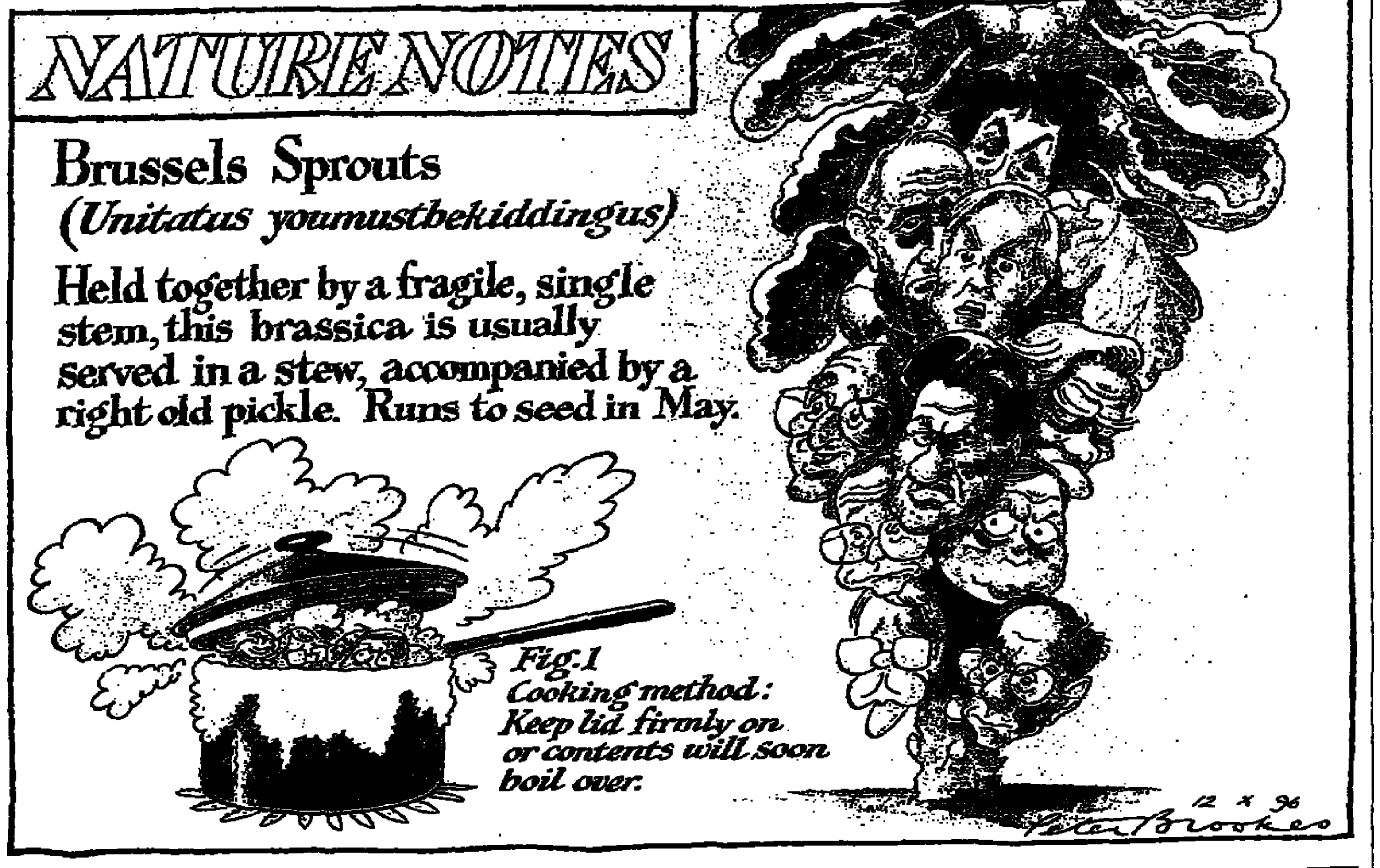
The Nobel Peace Prize has been awarded to José Ramos-Horta and Bishop Carlos Belo of Dili for helping East Timorese .... **Page 14**

Clinton at 21

For 15 minutes this week President Clinton left the campaign trail, to buy his wife a 21st wedding anniversary gift..........**Page 15**

OJ 'tried to shoot himself in head'

■ O.J. SIMPSON put a gun to his head and pulled the trigger while being chased through Los Angeles by police, his friend and adviser Robert Kardashian, who spoke to him that night by car phone, has recalled. The gun did not go off.......... **Page 1**


NATURE NOTES
Brussels Sprouts
(Unitatus youmustbekiddingus)
Held together by a fragile, single stem, this brassica is usually served in a stew, accompanied by a right old pickle. Runs to seed in May.
Fig.1
Cooking method:
Keep lid firmly on or contents will soon boil over.
12 x 96
Peter Brookes

OPINION

Tale of two leaders: As the parties' policies are seen to converge, the choice between the leaders may become the biggest poll issue ..... **Page 19**

Malan free: *Magnus Malan's acquittal is a verdict that will* enhance South Africa's reputation overseas for maturity and stability .... **Page 19**

LETTERS

Nuclear secrets and Stalin's spies: Church dilemma on homosexuals: Oxford's admissions system: modern alchemy and ancient gold; Brussels rule .... **Page 19**

COLUMNS

Simon Jenkins: When lies are written about them, the Royal Family should hit back with a vengeance ..... **Page 20**

Rachel Campbell-Johnston: *Bacon's central philosophy* was that man is an accident who plays out the game of existence without reason. He dedicated himself to futility with an almost religious fervour .... **Page 20**

OBITUARIES

L. P. Williams, cinema art director; **Terry Patchett**, Labour MP; **Ruth Anslow**, nanny.......... **Page 21**

BUSINESS

Bank pay: Bank staff condemned the "golden handcuffs" that will make millionaires of 120 key J. O. Hambro Magan employees ... **Page 23**

Wickes: *The DIY retailer has* again delayed a letter to shareholders to explain how it overstated profits by about £50 million .... **Page 23**

Economy: The pound was the star performer on foreign exchanges yesterday, surging to a 20-month high against the German mark.... **Page 23**

Markets: The FT-SE 100 Index rose 33.4 points to close at 4028.1 .... **Page 26**

SPORT

Football: Manchester United and Liverpool, the old guard meets the new .... **Page 48**

Golf: Scotland, the defending champions, were knocked out of the Dunhill Cup after losing 2-1 to India .... **Page 43**

Motor racing: Damon Hill was fifth fastest after free practice for the Japanese Grand Prix, one place behind his world championship rival Jacques Villeneuve... **Page 48**

Rugby union: As administrators wrangle over the European game's future, players start the second Heineken Cup .... **Page 41**

ARTS

Trouble in the pews: *Perhaps*, Richard Morrison writes, the Church should add a new festival: Bust-Up Sunday ....**Page 17**

Spanish night: The "rock flamenco sensation" Joaquin Cortes showed a clean pair of heels, and a good lot of chest ... **Page 17**

Manic moment: The Manic Street Preachers and Catatonia start a UK tour in great form .... **Page 17**

CAR 96

Off the road: Britain's unluckiest lucky man

SECTIONS

[illegible]

Madonna and child: Alan Jackson talks to the mother of all popstars ... **Page 8**
100 books: Joseph Connolly's list .... **Page 49**

weekend

Rural life: Paul Heiney on campaign trail.. **Pages 1, 2**

Shopping: Goodbye green wellies .... **Pages 2,**
Travel: Italy: Malaysia; Philippines ..... **Pages 15-21**

10 15

Win: VIP tickets for the Smash Hits Tour .. **Page 3**
Meet: Rick Adams, of Big Breakfast fame...... **Page 6**

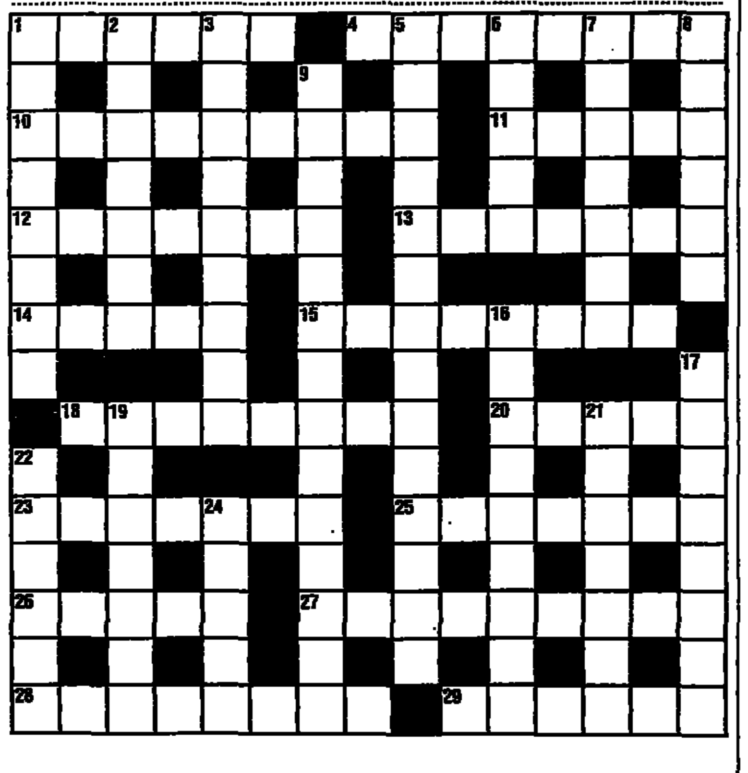
directory

Low-fat cooking: First part of a series .. **Pages 3-**
Pick of the week: The be 7-day TV, satellite and radio guide .... **Pages 23-50**

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,297

A limited edition. 1970 vintage bottle of Aberlour single malt whisky, the only malt whisky to have twice won the prestigious Gold Medal and Pot Still Trophy at the International Wine & Spirit Competition, will be given for the first five correct solutions opened next Thursday. Entries should be addressed to: The Times, Saturday Crossword Competition, PO Box 486, Virginia Street, London E1 9DD. The winners and solution will be published next Saturday.

Name/Address ....



ACROSS

- 1 Child's play for shepherdess in nursery (2-4).
- 4 A female Liberal, say, in excited state (8).
- 10 Fighter, perhaps, rejected opening, in a way (9).
- 11 Fail to declare weapon to police (5).
- 12 March almost pleasant? No, quite diabolical (7).
- 13 Disturb king, in peril after loss of rook (7).
- 14 Dish of oriental chef bringing us his cooking (5).
- 15 Diamonds — only the very best will do for one's sweet (3-5).
- 18 Collaborating with governing class (2,6).
- 20 State with sea to the east (5).
- 23 Caesar, in bad mood, beheaded soldiers (7).
- 25 Bible classes, for example, given to children make fresh impression (7).
- 26 Bundle ambassador into nearly secure accommodation (5).
- 27 Fitting for shift (9).
- 28 She needs to listen (8).
- 29 Businessman embarrassed by skilful work being rejected (6).

DOWN

- 1 Shake some cereal on to bowl (8).
- 2 *Dream lover takes drink, holding* girl up (7).
- 3 Dear old husband, possibly, rather thoughtful (9).
- 5 Deal with paper that carries campaign messages (5,9).
- 6 Remove block *after Scots poet has* been beheaded (5).
- 7 Isn't it common to go up and hug a queen? (7).
- 8 *He may be calling for a double* (6).
- 9 After going on demo, demands for one's dismissal (8,6).
- 16 Note to nurse about a rest (9).
- 17 Watch TV programme again over a half of beer (8).
- 19 It should grip the kids (7).
- 21 As an alternative, Dante is available in translation (7).
- 22 Black man that gets flung off ship (6).
- 24 Stock of it is held as loot (5).

Solution to Puzzle No 20,291

C	H	A	M	P	I	O	N	S	H	I	P	■	■	■
O	■	B	■	U	■	B	■	I	■	N	■	N	■	S
C	R	O	S	S	W	O	R	D	■	G	R	A	N	T
K	■	U	■	H	■	E	■	E	■	O	■	T	■	A
N	O	T	B	A	D	■	W	R	I	T	H	I	N	G
E	■	■	■	L	■	■	■	O	■	■	■	O	■	E
Y	E	L	L	O	W	■	F	A	L	C	O	N	R	Y
■	■	E	■	N	■	I	■	D	■	A	■	A	■	■
P	L	A	N	G	E	N	T	■	U	N	P	L	U	G
E	■	V	■	■	■	T	■	■	■	T	■	■	■	O
A	B	E	R	D	E	E	N	■	G	O	L	F	E	D
R	■	O	■	I	■	R	■	J	■	N	■	I	■	U
L	O	U	R	S	■	C	L	O	S	E	K	N	I	T
Y	■	T	■	C	■	O	■	H	■	S	■	A	■	C
■	■	■	C	O	M	M	O	N	W	E	A	L	T	H

Solution to Puzzle No 20,296

A	P	P	R	A	I	S	A	L	S	■	E	P	I	C
G	■	A	■	L	■	T	■	A	■	Y	■	R	■	O
R	U	S	T	L	E	R	■	U	T	O	P	I	A	N
E	■	T	■	O	■	E	■	N	■	U	■	M	■	D
E	N	E	R	V	A	T	E	D	■	R	U	P	E	E
■	■	L	■	E	■	C	■	E	■	E	■	■	■	N
C	R	I	E	R	■	H	A	R	D	T	I	M	E	S
A	■	S	■	T	■	■	■	■	■	E	■	I	■	E
M	A	T	C	H	L	E	S	S	■	L	A	S	E	R
E	■	■	■	E	■	X	■	I	■	L	■	E	■	■
M	I	D	A	S	■	P	A	T	R	I	A	R	C	H
B	■	E	■	H	■	O	■	U	■	N	■	A	■	E
E	M	U	L	O	U	S	■	A	L	G	E	B	R	A
R	■	C	■	P	■	E	■	T	■	M	■	L	■	R
T	R	E	E	■	I	R	R	E	V	E	R	E	N	T

LAST WEEK'S WINNERS: *J F Byrne, Westmeath, Ireland: G Noble, Caterham, Surrey: W Drever, Headingley, Leeds: K Hopkins, Peterborough, Cambridgeshire: D L E Marshall, Langley, Berkshire.*

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TIMES WEATHERCALL

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0891 500 followed by the code

Greater London	701
Kent,Surrey,Sussex	702
Dorset,Hants & IOW	703
Devon & Cornwall	704
Wilts,Gloucs,Avon,Soms	705
Berks,Bucks,Oxon	706
Beds,Herts & Essex	707
Norfolk,Suffolk,Cambs	708
West Mid & Sth Glam & Gwent	709
Shrops,Herefds & Worcs	710
Central Midlands	711
East Midlands	712
Lincs & Humberside	713
Dyfed & Powys	714
Gwynedd & Clwyd	715
N W England	716
W & S Yorks & Dales	717
N E England	718
Cumbria & Lake District	719
S W Scotland	720
W Central Scotland	721
Edin S Fife/Lothian & Borders	722
E Central Scotland	723
Grampian & E Highlands	724
N W Scotland	725
Caithness,Orkney & Shetland	726
N Ireland	727

Weathercall is charged at 39p per minute (cheap rate) and 49p per minute at all other times.

AA ROADWATCH

For the latest AA traffic/roadworks information, 24 hours a day, dial 0336 401 followed by the code.

London & SE traffic, roadworks	
Area within M25	731
Essex/Herts/Beds/Bucks/Berks/Oxon	732
Kent/Surrey/Sussex/Hants	734
M25 London Orbital only	736
National traffic and roadworks	
National motorways	737
West Country	738
Wales	739
Midlands	740
East Anglia	741
North-west England	742
North-east England	743
Scotland	744
Northern Ireland	745

AA Roadwatch is charged at 39p per minute (cheap rate) and 49p per minute all other times.

HOURS OF DARKNESS

TODAY

Sun rises: 7.20 am
Sun sets: 6.13 pm
Moon sets 6.17 pm
Moon rises 7.01 am

New moon today

London 6 13 pm to 7.22 am
Bristol 6.23 pm to 7.31 am
Edinburgh 6.19 pm to 7.40 am
Manchester 6.19 pm to 7.33 am
Penzance 6.37 pm to 7.41 am

TOMORROW

Sun rises: 7.22 am
Sun sets: 6.11 pm
Moon sets 6.46 pm
Moon rises 8.09 am

First quarter October 19

London 6.11 *pm to 7.23 am*
Bristol 6.21 pm to 7.33 am
Edinburgh 6.17 pm to 7.42 am
Manchester 6.17 pm to 7.35 am
Penzance 6.35 pm to 7.43 am

HIGH TIDES

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	1:20	6.8	1:35	6.8
Aberdeen	0:55	4.3	1:15	4.3
Avonmouth	6:50	12.8	7:07	12.9
Belfast	10:53	3.4	10:50	3.5
Cardiff	6:39	11.4	6:54	11.7
Devonport	5:25	5.3	5:39	5.4
Dover	10:38	6.6	10:55	6.5
Dublin (N Wall)	11:14	3.8	11:24	4.0
Falmouth	4:37	4.9	4:53	5.1
Greenock	-	-	12:37	3.3
Harwich	11:31	3.9	11:51	3.9
Holyhead	9:55	5.5	10:08	5.6
Hull (Albert D)	5:42	7.4	6:08	7.4
Ilfracombe	5:36	9.1	5:50	9.3
King's Lynn	5:53	6.2	6:11	6.4
Leith	2:04	5.4	2:23	5.5
Liverpool	10:57	9.1	11:09	9.2
Lowestoft	8:58	2.6	9:34	2.5
Margate	11:36	4.6	11:58	4.6
Milford Haven	5:49	6.8	6:03	7.0
Newquay	4:39	6.5	4:55	6.7
Oban	5:30	3.9	5:37	4.1
Penzance	4:13	5.4	4:29	5.5
Portland	6:25	2.1	6:38	2.1
Portsmouth	11:02	4.6	11:12	4.6
Shoreham	10:49	6.2	11:03	6.1
Southampton	10:22	4.6	10:38	4.6
Swansea	6:00	9.3	6:16	9.5
Tees	3:05	5.2	3:28	5.3
Walton-on-Naze	11:25	4.2	11:46	4.2

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HIGHEST & LOWEST

Yesterday: Highest day temp: Guernsey, 18C (64F); lowest day max: Eskdalemuir, Dumfries and Galloway, 11C (52F); highest rainfall: Machrihanish, Kintyre, 0.67in; highest sunshine: Cromer, Norfolk, 5.3hr.

FORECAST

☐ **General:** England and Wales will be mostly dry with sunny spells. Any rain in northern England will soon clear. Rain is expected to reach the west later. Breezy. Temperatures should be a little above average.

Scotland and Northern Ireland will be cloudy with rain at times, but the Northern Isles should be mainly dry. Drier weather will spread from the south across southern Scotland. Temperatures mostly near average.

☐ **London, SE England, E Anglia, Central S England, E Midlands, E England, W Midlands, Channel Isles, Central N England:** dry, cloudy start, sunny spells developing. Wind south or southwest, moderate becoming fresh. Max 17C (63F).

☐ ***SW England, S Wales, N Wales:*** dry with sunny intervals; more cloudy later, perhaps with rain in the evening. Wind southerly, fresh becoming strong later. Max temp 16C (61F).

☐ ***NW England, Lake District, Isle of Man, NE England, Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, SW Scotland, Glasgow:*** outbreaks of rain at first, but drier weather will spread from *the south. Wind southwest* turning south, fresh to strong. Max 17C (63F).

☐ **Aberdeen, Central Highlands, Argyll, N Ireland:** cloudy, rain at times. Wind south or southwest, fresh, occasionally strong. Max (15C) 59F.

☐ **Moray Firth, NE Scotland, NW Scotland, Orkney:** rain, heavy at times. Wind east or northeast, moderate becoming strong. Max 12C (54F).

☐ **Shetland:** mainly dry, some bright intervals. Wind northerly, mostly fresh. Rather cold. Max 10C (50F).

☐ **Outlook:** rain in west spreading east, bright intervals and showers later in west.

AROUND BRITAIN YESTERDAY

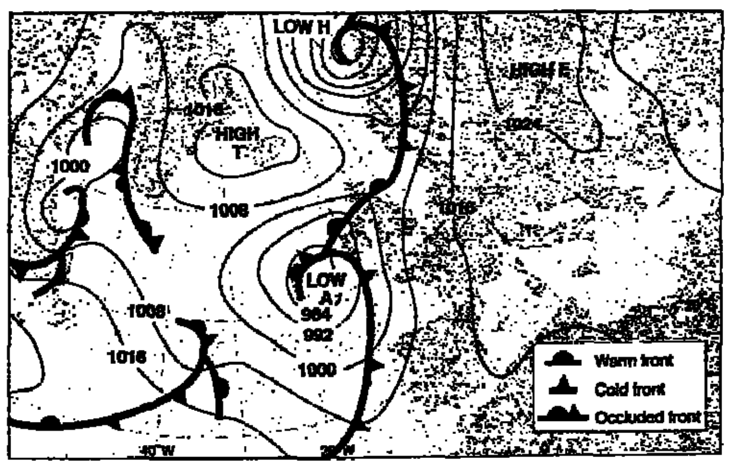
24 hrs to 5 pm: b=bright; c=cloud; d=drizzle; ds=dust storm; du=dull; f=fair; fg=fog; g=gale; h=hail; r=rain; sh=shower; sl=sleet; sn=snow; s=sun; t=thunder

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F			Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F	
Aberdeen	-	0.01	12	54	r	Leuchars	-	0.01	15	59	r
Anglesey	-	-	15	59	c	Littlehmptn	1.5	0.04	15	59	d
Aspatria	0.5	0.01	14	57	d	London	3.2	-	16	61	b
Aviemore	*0.2*	*0.04*	*13*	*55*	*r*	*Lowestoft*	*0.4*	*0.01*	*14*	*57*	*c*
Belfast	-	0.07	13	55	r	Manchester	2.6	0.01	15	59	r
Birmingham	0.4	0.01	14	57	c	Margate	3.3	-	15	59	s
Bognor R	0.6	-	15	59	c	Minehead	0.8	0.01	16	61	c
Bournem'th	-	0.01	16	61	c	Morecambe	3.0	-	15	59	b
Bristol	0.4	-	15	59	c	Newcastle	-	-	14	57	c
Buxton	X					Norwich	1.9	-	14	57	c
Cardiff	0.7	-	15	59	c	Oxford	0.2	-	15	59	c
Clacton	X					Penzance	X	-	16	61	du
Cleethorpes	X					Poole	0.1	-	17	63	c
Colwyn Bay	0.5	-	15	59	c	Prestatyn	X				
Cromer	5.3	-	14	57	s	Ross-o-wye	1.0	-	16	61	c
Dunbar	X					Ryde	X				
Eastbourne	0.7	-	14	57	c	Salcombe	0.5	-	17	63	c
Edinburgh	0.1	-	15	59	r	Sandown	0.9	-	16	61	c
Eskdalemuir	-	0.18	11	52	r	Sauntn Snd	1.4	-	15	59	du
Exmouth	0.9	-	16	61	c	Scarboro'	2.1	-	14	57	c
Falmouth	1.5	-	16	61	c	Shanklin	X	-	15	59	c
Fishguard	-	0.01	14	57	c	Shrewsbury	1.5	0.01	14	57	sh
Folkestone	1.6	-	13	55	c	Skegness	X				
Glasgow	-	0.20	14	57	r	Southend	1.2	-	15	59	du
Guernsey	3.0	-	18	64	b	Southport	X				
Hastings	0.8	-	13	55	c	Southsea	-	-	15	59	c
Hayling I	0.7	-	15	59	c	Stornoway	0.2	0.23	13	55	r
Herne Bay	X					Swanage	0.3	-	16	61	c
Hove	0.9	0.02	15	59	du	Teignmouth	0.8	0.01	16	61	c
Hunstanton	1.9	-	15	59	b	Tenby	-	-	16	61	c
Ilfracombe	X					Tiree	-	0.37	13	55	r
Isle of Man	*0.2*	*0.01*	*14*	*57*	*c*	*Torquay*	*0.4*	-	*17*	*63*	*c*
Jersey	3.2	-	17	63	b	Tynemouth	X				
Kinloss	-	-	15	59	c	Ventnor	0.5	-	15	59	c
Leeds	2.2	-	15	59	b	West-s-mare	0.2	-	15	59	c
Lerwick	-	0.18	11	52	r	Weymouth	0.4	-	16	61	b

ABROAD

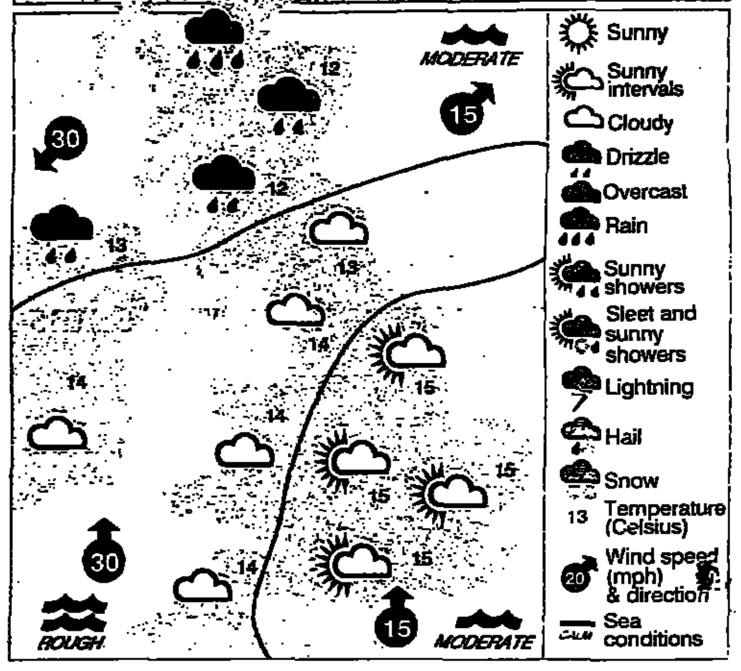
Ajaccio	21	70	s	Corfu	22	72	f	Madrid	19	66	s	Riyadh	38	100	s
Akrotiri	27	81	f	C'phagn	13	55	s	Majorca	21	70	f	Rome	22	72	f
Alex'dria	32	90	f	Dublin	11	52	c	Malaga	22	72	s	S Paulo	27	81	f
Algiers	23	73	s	Dubrovnik	21	70	s	Malta	X			Salzburg	15	59	f
Amst'dm	15	59	f	Faro	21	70	s	Melb'rne	25	77	s	Santiago	16	61	f
Athens	23	73	f	Florence	22	72	s	Mexico C	15	59	f	Seoul	21	70	s
B Aires	24	75	f	Frankfurt	16	61	f	Miami	28	82	s	Sing'por	26	79	t
Bahrain	33	91	s	Funchal	22	72	s	Milan	16	61	r	St'kholm	11	52	s
Bangkok	31	88	c	Geneva	13	55	c	Montreal	7	45	fg	Strasb'rg	17	63	s
Barbados	29	84	r	Gibraltar	21	70	s	Moscow	9	48	f	Sydney	27	81	c
Barcelona	20	68	f	Helsinki	12	54	f	Munich	13	55	c	Tangier	21	70	s
Beirut	26	79	s	Hong K	27	81	f	N Delhi	30	86	s	Tel Aviv	31	88	s
Belgrade	16	61	f	Innsbrck	14	57	c	N York	16	61	f	Tenerife	25	77	s
Berlin	14	57	f	Istanbul	20	68	f	Nairobi	25	77	c	Tokyo	20	68	c
Bermuda	27	81	f	Jeddah	36	97	s	Naples	23	73	s	Toronto	7	45	c
Biarritz	16	61	f	Jo'burg	25	77	s	Nice	21	70	s	Tunis	21	70	c
Borde'x	17	63	c	Karachi	X			Oslo	12	54	s	Valencia	21	70	f
Brussels	11	52	r	L Angels	21	70	s	Paris	13	55	c	Vanc'ver	15	59	r
Budapst	18	64	x	L Palmas	24	75	f	Peking	19	66	s	Venice	20	68	s
Cairo	35	95	f	Le Touqet	14	57	f	Perth	16	61	f	Vienna	15	59	c
Cape Tn	20	68	f	Lisbon	22	72	s	Prague	13	55	c	Warsaw	12	54	c
Ch'church	X			Locarno	13	55	r	Reykjavik	6	43	f	Wash'ton	16	61	f
Chicago	8	46	s	Luxembg	15	59	s	Rhodes	20	68	f	Wel'ngton	X		
Cologne	12	54	c	Luxor	36	97	s	Rio de J	26	79	s	Zurich	14	57	c

Temperatures at midday local time on Thursday. X = not available



Changes to the chart from noon: low H will move NE and gradually fill; low A will edge N and deepen; high T will move NE and build slightly; high E will transfer east and build

NOON TODAY



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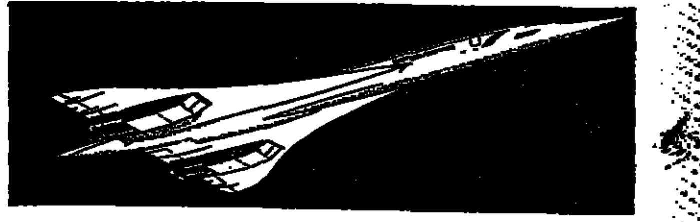

QE2 AND ORIENT-EXPRESS

Orient-Express to Southampton on 13 Nov. • four night QE2 cruise to Tenerife via Madeira • island tour • Concorde supersonic to Heathrow £1,599

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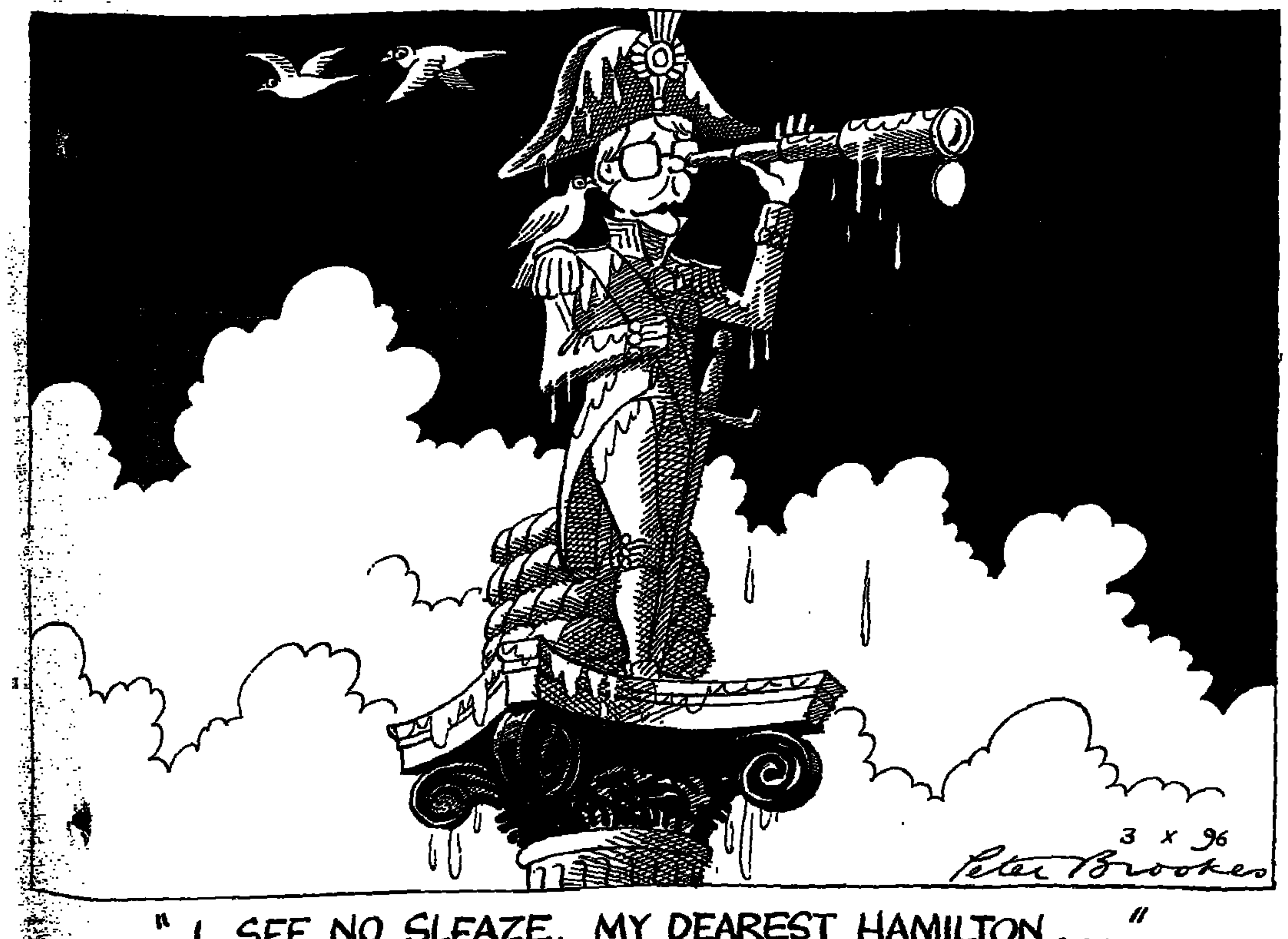

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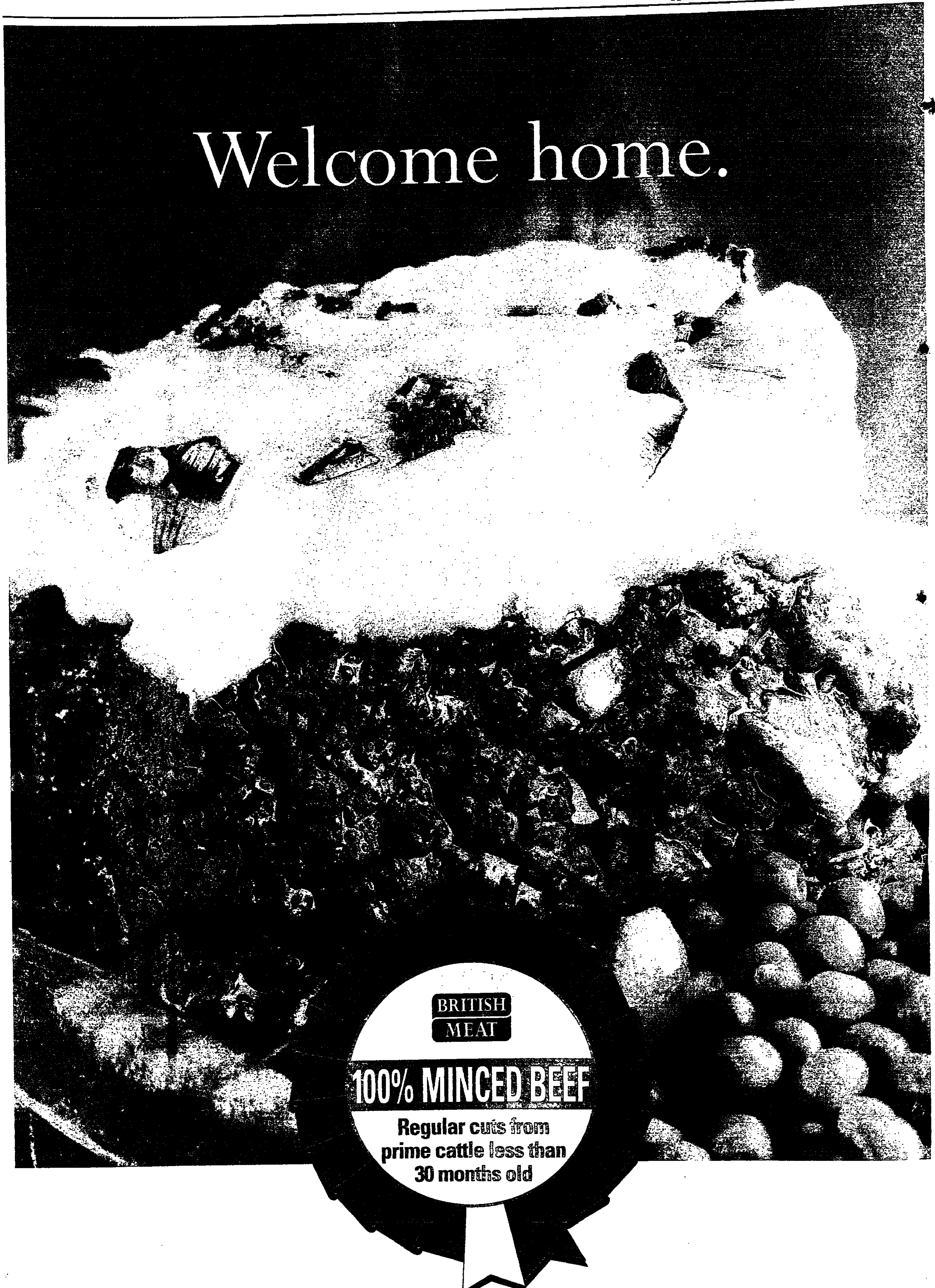
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